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act.10

HOW WAS IT AT SCHOOL, RYOUMA-KUN?
DID YOU HAVE FUN?

Nina-san and Ryouma are about the same height.
WE'RE THE SAME HEIGHT!! SO DON'T CALL ME A PIPSQUEAK!!
Any guy who's the same height as a girl is a pipsqueak.
I'd be taller than you if I wore heels.
Gaah!

MY FIRST DAY AT HIGH SCHOOL WAS THE WORST.
HUH?
You mad?
"PIPSQUEAK."
"IF YOU JUST CAME HERE TO CHASE AFTER HER,
HURRY UP AND GO BACK TO YOUR OWN WORLD."

GAAAH!
WHY DO I HAVE TO HEAR STUFF LIKE THAT FROM HER!!!?
HUH!? WHAT'S WRONG!?
HAYATO, DO YOU KNOW WHO NINA KATSURAGI IS?
I have no idea!
BESIDES, WHO IS THAT GIRL!?
I MEAN, SHE'S REALLY FAMOUS.
Click Click
YEAH, OF COURSE.
WHOA!
Nina Katsuragi finally overseas to be on a show in France!
Ad Queen Nina Katsuragi
LOOK.
Nina Katsuragi
(real name: same)
Father: Yutaka Katsuragi
Mother: Anya Hunt
She made her showbiz debut as an infant
TV ad. Later, she did a lot of modelling an
personality jobs. She's been featured
e covers consecutively and has be
Over 150,000 copies sold!!
Nina Katsuragi Photo Collection "27"
One Week of Nina's Fashion
Nina-san goes all out on a variety show!!
8 yr. old Nina is an angel
Nina-san's a total angel!!!

SHE WAS SO YOUNG AND SMALL BACK THEN, BUT SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN AMAZING.
I HAVEN'T WORKED WITH HER LATELY, BUT WHEN I USED TO MODEL, I WOULD SEE HER AT THE STUDIO.
Ah! She's been in all these commercials?
Whoa...
HUH...? SHE WAS A BIG SHOT LIKE THIS...?
...ARE YOU SERIOUS?
THEY SHOULDN'T BE PRESSURING CHILD ACTORS.
Ahhhh! I did a good job!
BUT ONCE SHE FINISHED A JOB, I WOULD ALWAYS SEE HER TREMBLING SLIGHTLY, SO I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT HER...
Is she okay...?
※ THAT'S NOT WHY
WAIT A SECOND.
HUH?
BUT STILL, IF I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT SOMEONE FAMOUS LIKE HER, I MUST REALLY ONLY BE FOCUSING ON MAO...

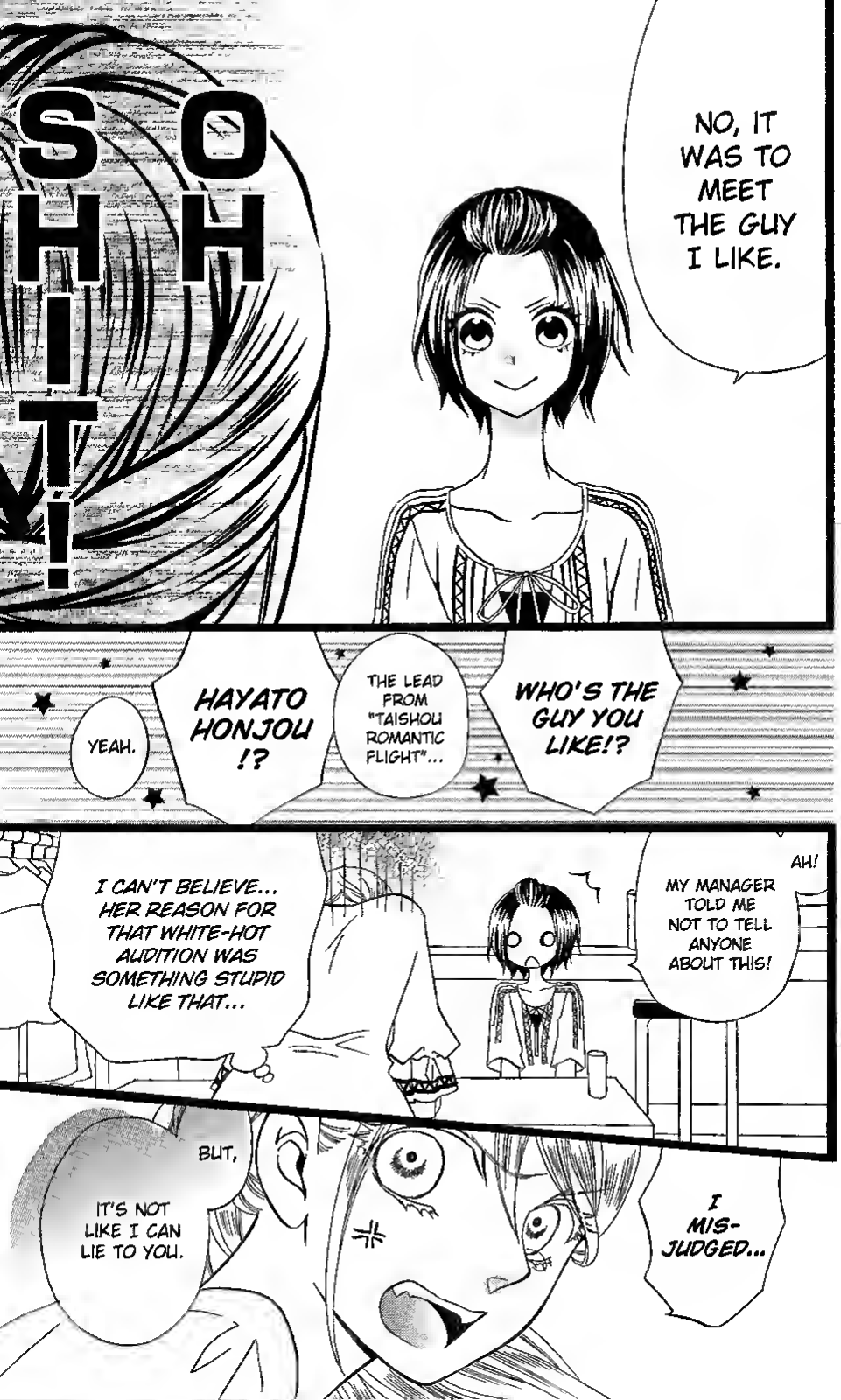
Oh ho
hohoho!
THAT GIRL KNOWS
THAT I LIKE MAO!
HOLY SHIT!

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL !!!
AH, THE PIPSQUEAK.
ドン!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? ARE YOU GONNA RAPE ME?
Don't say stuff like that in Margaret!!!
LIKE HELL I AM !!!
YOU STILL HAVEN'T QUIT?
WELL, I GIVE YOU CREDIT FOR QUITTING AFTER YOU GET DONE WITH ALL OF THE JOBS YOU HAVE ON HAND.
I'M NOT GONNA QUIT!!!

I WANT YOU TO KEEP IT A SECRET...
I
.....
THEN WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WELL, UM...
I WANT ...
WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
COME AGAIN?
I WANT YOU TO KEEP IT A SECRET
THAT I LIKE MAO!!
SO YOU WANT ME TO TELL HER?
THIS ISN'T AN ACT!!

HAAA GIVE ME A BREAK. TALK ABOUT GROSS!
IT'S THE WORST WHEN A GUY IS SUCH A WUSS OVER DEALING WITH HIS ONE-SIDED FEELINGS.
THAT GIRL'S NEVER GONNA GO FOR YOU IF YOU'RE LIKE THAT.
LOOK,
YOU MAY BE MAKING FUN OF ME LIKE THAT,
BUT IF YOU WANT TO BRING UP MY REASON FOR GOING INTO SHOWBIZ, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT YOUR BELOVED MAO IS THE SAME WAY!
HUH?
AH! CRAP!
Green Room
Mao Manaka-sama

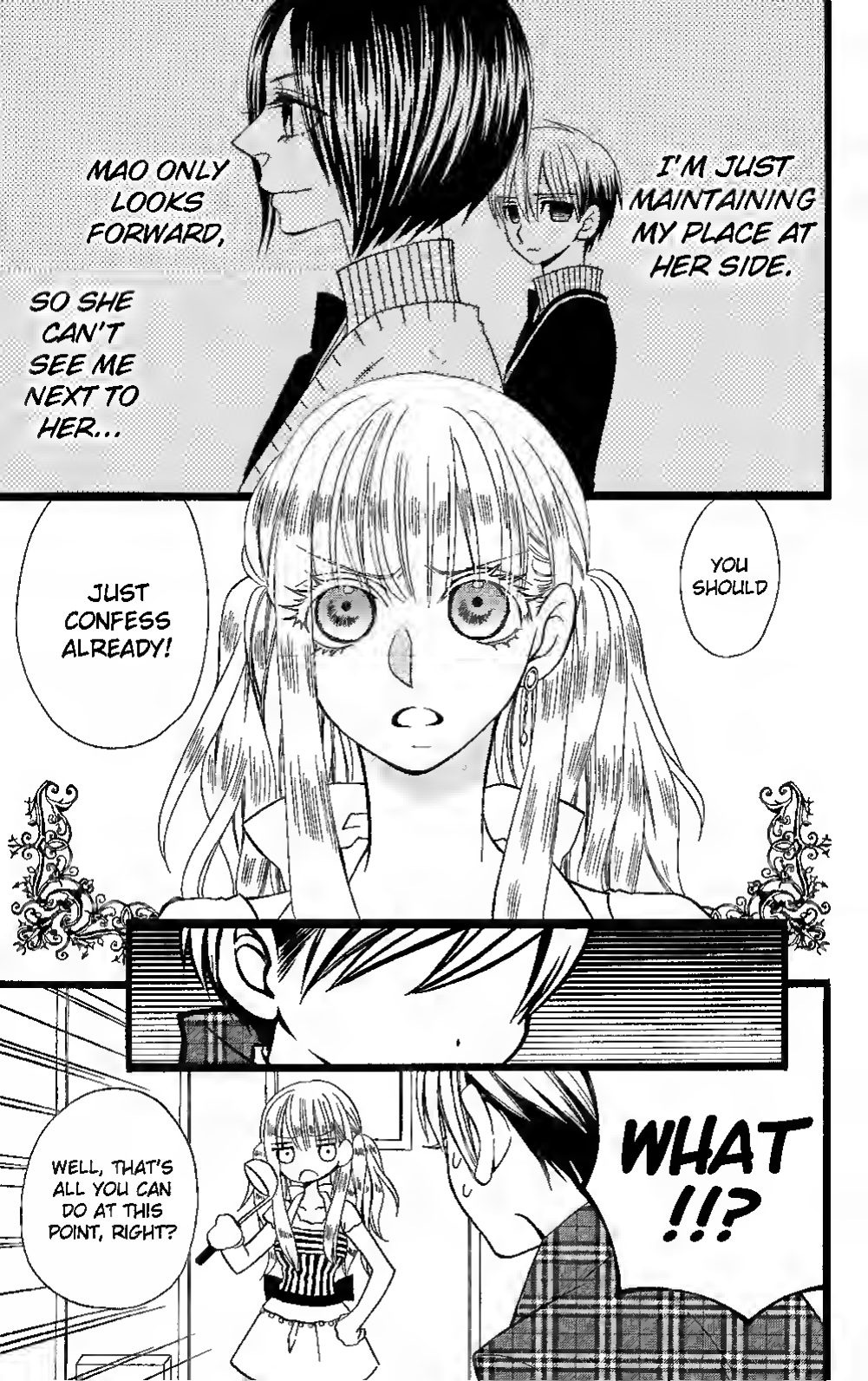
HEEEY !! MAO MANAKA !!
OHH!
WE'RE DOING A SHOOT TOGETHER TODAY, RIGHT? LET'S HAVE A GOOD ONE ..
WHY DID YOU MAKE YOUR WAY INTO THIS WORLD!!?
HM?
YOU JUST WANTED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR LOOKS,
OR YOU JUST LIKE ACTING, RIGHT!?
ISN'T THAT WHY!? TELL ME THAT'S WHY!!

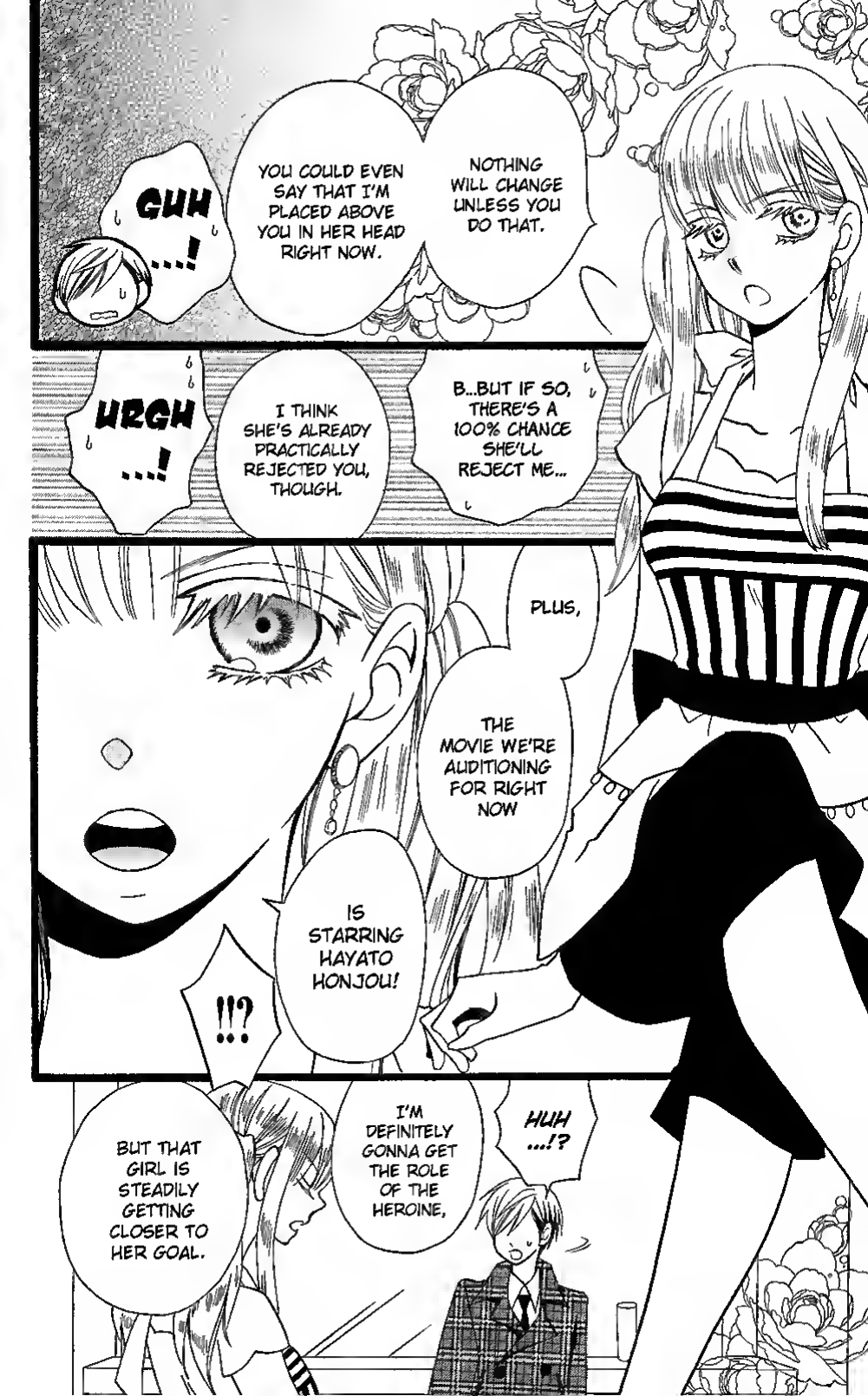

SO HOT!
NO, IT WAS TO MEET THE GUY I LIKE.
WHO'S THE GUY YOU LIKE!?
THE LEAD FROM "TAISHOU ROMANTIC FLIGHT"...
HAYATO HONJOU !?
YEAH.
AH! MY MANAGER TOLD ME NOT TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE... HER REASON FOR THAT WHITE-HOT AUDITION WAS SOMETHING STUPID LIKE THAT...
I MIS-JUDGED...
BUT, IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN LIE TO YOU.

AFTER MAKING MY WAY INTO THIS WORLD BY CHASING AFTER THE GUY I LIKE,
I NEVER IMAGINED THAT I'D GET TO MEET A WORTHY OPPONENT LIKE YOU.
THAT'S MADE ME SO HAPPY.
Y-Y-Y-YOU CAN'T EVEN HOLD A CANDLE TO ME!!
O-
OH?
SHUT UP...!
.....!!

HUH...?
YOU'RE SO STUPID !!
HEY !!!
WHAT THE HELL'S WITH THAT VIXEN!!?
SHUT THE HELL UP!!!
This is for a feature on "cute aprons"!!
Besides, why are you dressed like that? Is that for an AV?
SO YOU GOT ENSNARED AND NOW YOU'RE HERE?
THAT GIRL HASN'T TAKEN ANY NOTICE OF YOU AT ALL.
BUT STILL...

WELL, SHE NEVER TALKS ABOUT YOU.
HO...
HOW...?
S..SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, AFTER ALL?
I HAD SOME-WHAT...
VAGUELY SENSED THAT...
DON'T YOU MEAN YOU KNEW ALL ALONG?
IF I WORK HARD AT IT,
I CAN EARN HER PRAISE,
BUT THAT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM HOW THINGS HAVE BEEN UP TO NOW.


MAO ONLY LOOKS FORWARD,
I'M JUST MAINTAINING MY PLACE AT HER SIDE.
SO SHE CAN'T SEE ME NEXT TO HER...
JUST CONFESS ALREADY!
YOU SHOULD
WELL, THAT'S ALL YOU CAN DO AT THIS POINT, RIGHT?
WHAT !!?


GUH ...!
YOU COULD EVEN SAY THAT I'M PLACED ABOVE YOU IN HER HEAD RIGHT NOW.
NOTHING WILL CHANGE UNLESS YOU DO THAT.
URGH ...!
I THINK SHE'S ALREADY PRACTICALLY REJECTED YOU, THOUGH.
B...BUT IF SO, THERE'S A 100% CHANCE SHE'LL REJECT ME...
PLUS,
THE MOVIE WE'RE AUDITIONING FOR RIGHT NOW
IS STARRING HAYATO HONJOU!
!!?
BUT THAT GIRL IS STEADILY GETTING CLOSER TO HER GOAL.
I'M DEFINITELY GONNA GET THE ROLE OF THE HEROINE,
HUH ...!?

IF THAT GIRL MEETS HIM,
SHE'LL BE ABLE TO WIN HIM OVER IN NO TIME.
FAR FROM WINNING HIM OVER,
THEY ALREADY PRETTY MUCH LIKE EACH OTHER...
HAYATO.H FAN CLUB NO.0000
IF TELLING HER WILL CHANGE THINGS EVEN A LITTLE BIT...
THERE'S NO TIME TO SPARE.
OKAY...
BUT STILL, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE I'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT!!
I THOUGHT AS MUCH. YOU'RE JUST A DAMN WEAKLING.
GAH!

DON'T MAKE THAT "WITH YOU?" FACE!!
TH-TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL JUST FROM GETTING THE CHANCE TO PRACTICE ON A REAL GIRL...!
And what's more, that girl is me!
IS SHE ACTUALLY NICE, DEEP DOWN...?
B...BUT, WHY WOULD YOU GO THAT FAR TO HELP ME OUT...?
THEN TRY PRACTICING YOUR CONFESSION ON ME.

YOU KNOW, I CAN HEAR YOUR INNER THOUGHTS, BUT ARE YOU ALL RIGHT IN THE HEAD?
I'D BE JUMPING UP AND DOWN IF THIS PIPSQUEAK GOT REJECTED AND LEFT SHOWBIZ ONCE AND FOR ALL.
WHEN I SEE SOMEONE IN TROUBLE... I JUST CAN'T LEAVE THEM ALONE...
NO ONE'S GONNA COME IF WE'RE OVER HERE.
COME ON, GIVE IT A SHOT.
I...
I
I-I
...I

LIKE
YOU ...
B...
BUT, IT'S JUST...
ARE YOU NOT TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY? OR ARE YOU JUST A MORON?
IT'S ALL OVER IF THIS CONFESSION DOESN'T MOVE THAT GIRL'S HEART EVEN A TINY BIT!
EHH !?
PUT MORE EMOTION INTO IT!!
ENOUGH TO STIR A GIRL'S HEART!!!
UGGH...
THIS IS TO GET MAO
.....!

TO LOOK EVEN A LITTLE BIT MY WAY.
HE...HE LOOKS SO SERIOUS...
...MAO,
I'VE
I'VE ALWAYS

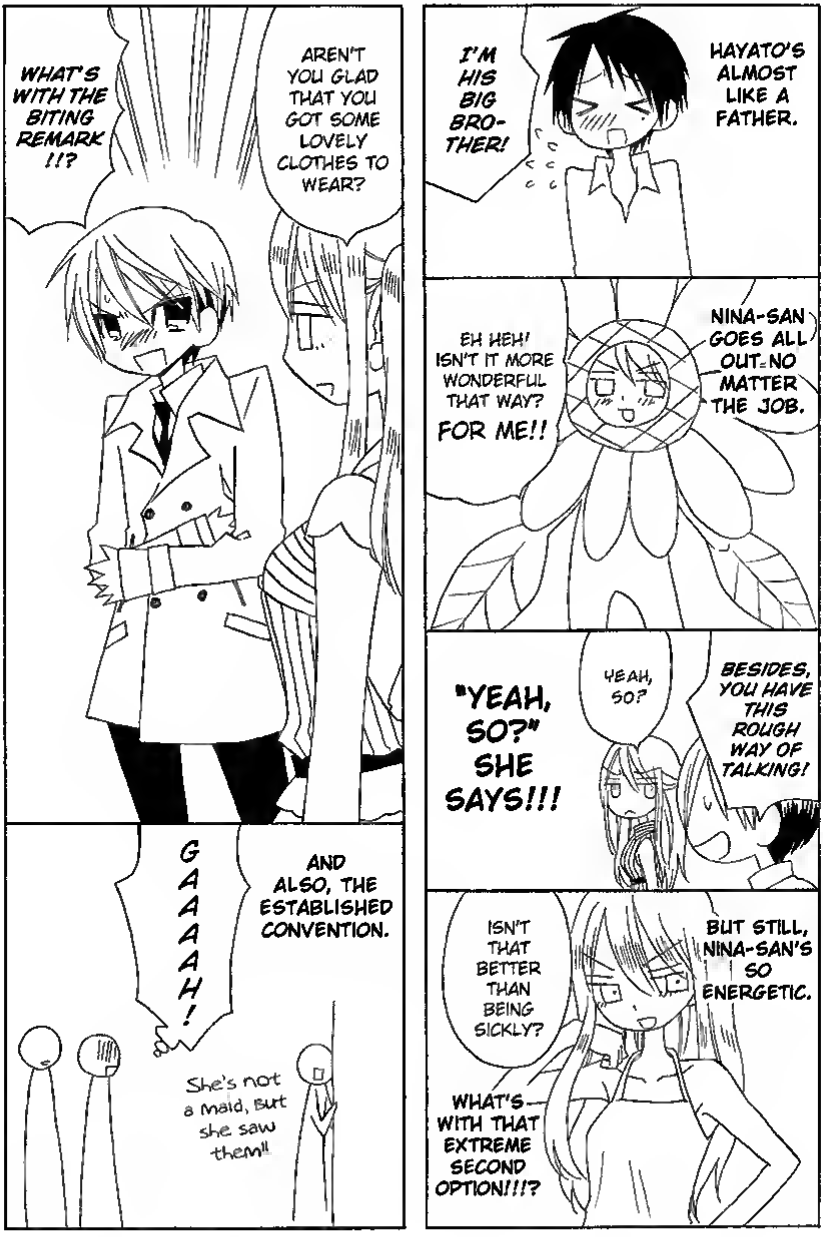
LIKED YOU...!!
...AL-WAYS,
ALWAYS, ALWAYS,

I WANT YOU
TO SEE ME FOR WHO I AM...!
OH!
Liah
HUH ...?
WHAT IS THIS...?
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump

AH!
HUH!?
Lilith

MA-
MAO SAW US!!!

FD NG! 10


HAYATO'S ALMOST LIKE A FATHER.
I'M HIS BIG BRO-THER!
NINA-SAN GOES ALL OUT-NO MATTER THE JOB.
EH HEH! ISN'T IT MORE WONDERFUL THAT WAY? FOR ME!!
BESIDES, YOU HAVE THIS ROUGH WAY OF TALKING!
YEAH, SO?
"YEAH, SO?" SHE SAYS!!!
BUT STILL, NINA-SAN'S SO ENERGETIC.
ISN'T THAT BETTER THAN BEING SICKLY?
WHAT'S—WITH THAT EXTREME SECOND OPTION!!!?
AREN'T YOU GLAD THAT YOU GOT SOME LOVELY CLOTHES TO WEAR?
WHAT'S WITH THE BITING REMARK!!?
AND ALSO, THE ESTABLISHED CONVENTION.
GAAAAH!
She's not a maid, but she saw them!!

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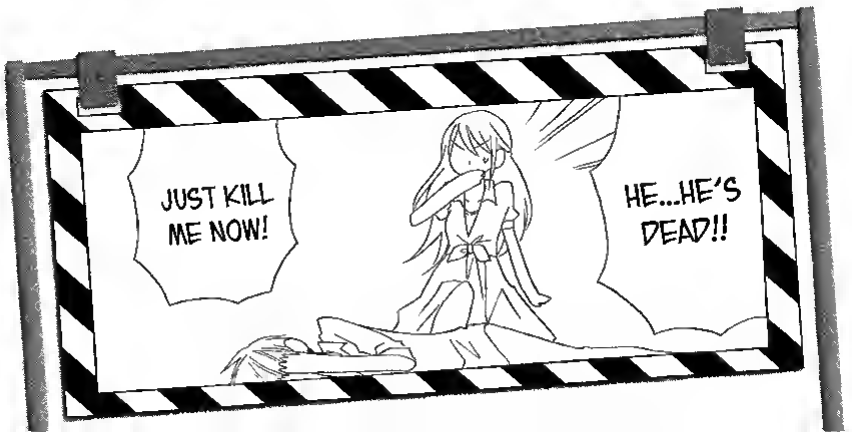
act.11

M...
MY MOCK CONFES-SION...
"MAO... I'VE ALWAYS, ALWAYS LIKED YOU..."
AH...
WAS SEEN BY MAO !!!


JUST KILL ME NOW!
HE...HE'S DEAD!!

WHA...
I HEARD YOU WERE DOING A JOB HERE TODAY TOO,
SO I THOUGHT I'D SAY HI.
Liar
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING FLUSTERED FOR? YOU WERE GONNA CONFESS FROM THE START!
WHAT SHOULD I DO!? WHAT AM I GONNA DO!? MAO KNOWS HOW I FEEL ABOUT HER!
Y..YEAH, BUT..
I'll just leave you two youths alone!
YOU DON'T NEED A THIRD WHEEL AROUND.
HUH!?
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU.
MY BAD.
Liar

LATER!
GOOD LUCK!
SHE COMPLETELY MISSED THE PART WHERE I SAID "MAO"!!!!
She think you confessed to me.
AH... DID THAT GIRL MISUNDERSTAND WHAT WE WERE DOING?
O-
OKAY...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? GO ON!
RUN AFTER HER!
...!
AH-CHOO!

OMPF!
TAKE THIS.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S STILL CHILLY, WHY'D YOU COME OUT HERE SO LIGHTLY DRESSED...?
WAIT A SECOND!
ISN'T THIS FOR A SHOOT!?
THERE'S NO WAY
I WOULD GET FLUSTERED BECAUSE OF A GUY LIKE HIM...

MAO!
Haa
Haa
!
NO, THAT'S NOT...
AHH, SORRY ABOUT THAT, RYOUMA.
I GOT IN THE WAY JUST WHEN YOU WERE TELLING HER HOW YOU FEEL.
WHEN YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO WORK HARD TOWARD SOMETHING, YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT HER, RIGHT?
IT'S AMAZING HOW YOU BEAT ME TO THE PUNCH.

HOW?
I'M SURE SHE'LL BE A TOUGH COOKIE,
BUT BEST OF LUCK TO YOU.
EVEN THOUGH WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR 15 YEARS,
AM I THAT INSIGNIFICANT TO YOU?
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM ABOUT THIS?
Liar
...NO,
SO,
THE ONE I LIKE...
...NO, JUST ACCEPT IT.
IN THE END, THAT'S ALL I AM TO MAO.

THE ONE I LIKE
UN-LESS I TELL HER,
IS YOU,
MAO !!
SHE WON'T KNOW.
…?
…

I LIKE YOU, TOO.
!?
YEAH,

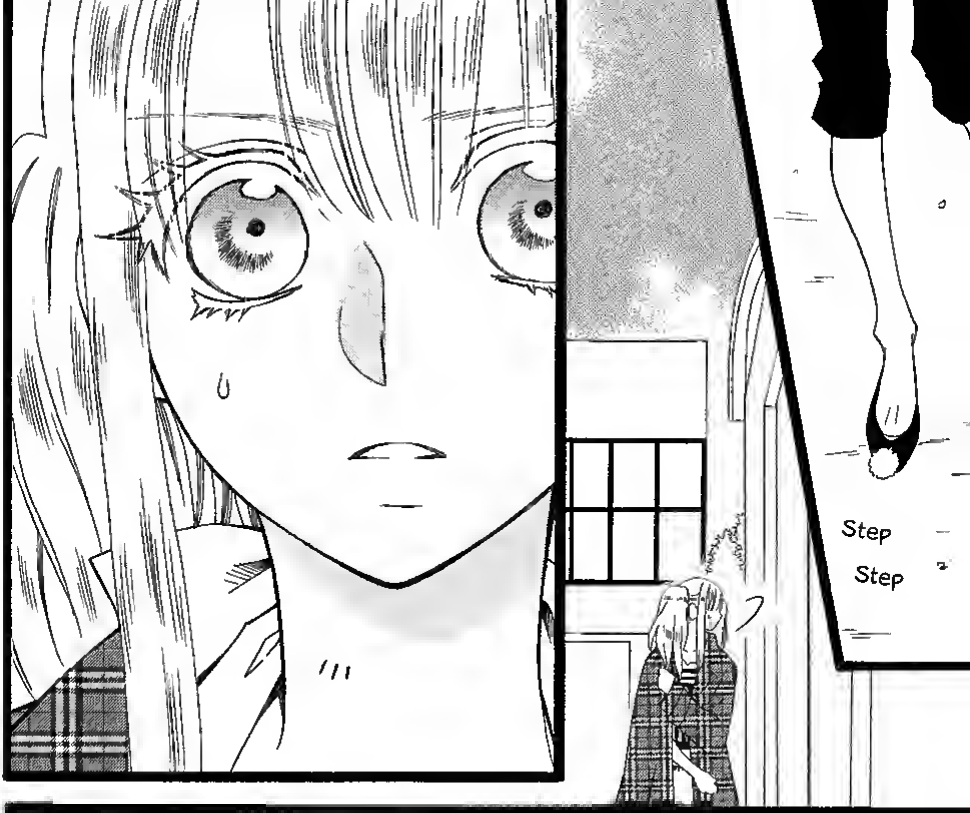
ONE AND ONLY CHILDHOOD FRIEND.
YOU'RE MY PRECIOUS,
EVEN AFTER CONFESSING,
SHE DOESN'T GET IT,
NO MATTER WHAT I DO.

ARE MY FEELINGS
NOT GOING TO REACH HER?
.....!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!! I...
!
HUH ...?

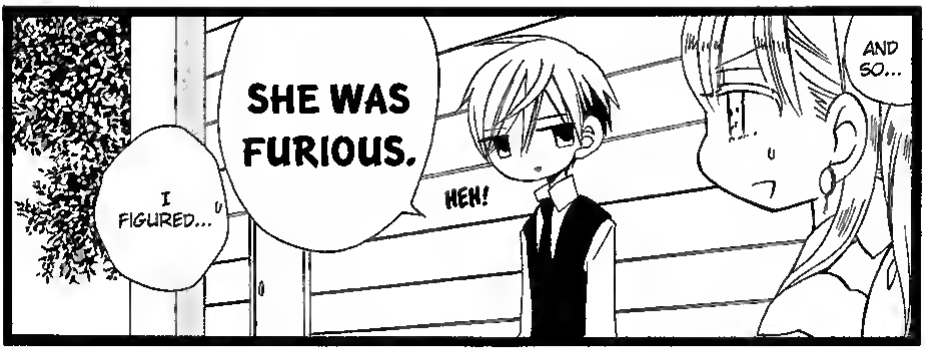
Rattle
WHY ...?
IN MY CASE,

INSTEAD OF "AS A CHILD-HOOD FRIEND",
I LIKE YOU
AS A WOMAN.
SO REALIZE IT ALREADY!
.....!
YOU HAD TO...
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN

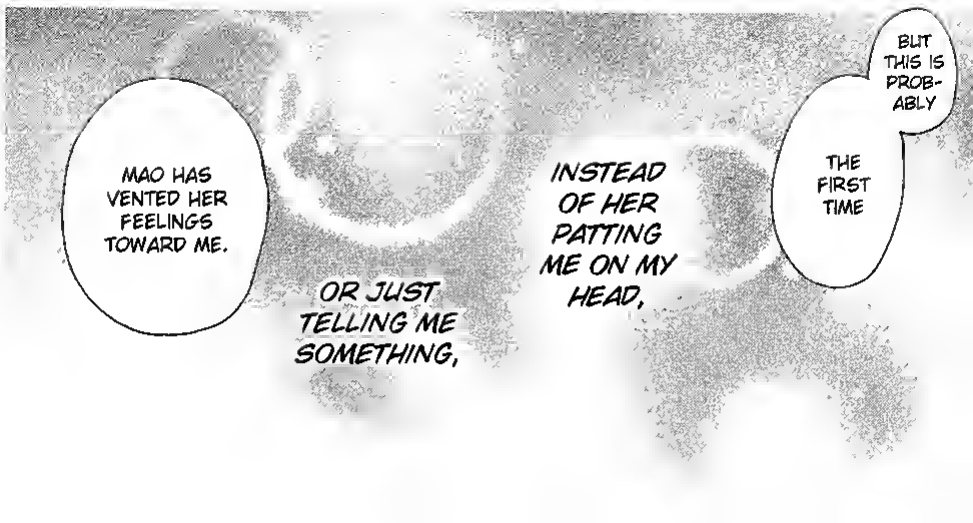
I MIS-
JUDGED
YOU...!


Step
Step

AHH...
HERE! THIS IS FOR A SHOOT, RIGHT!? I CAME TO GIVE IT BACK!
IT!! IT'S NOT LIKE I CAME HERE BECAUSE I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU!!
AH...
...SO,
HOW'D IT GO?
...WELL,
I TOLD HER,
BUT SHE WASN'T GETTING IT AT ALL, SO I FORCED A KISS ON HER.
HUH?


AND SO...
HEH!
SHE WAS FURIOUS.
I FIGURED...

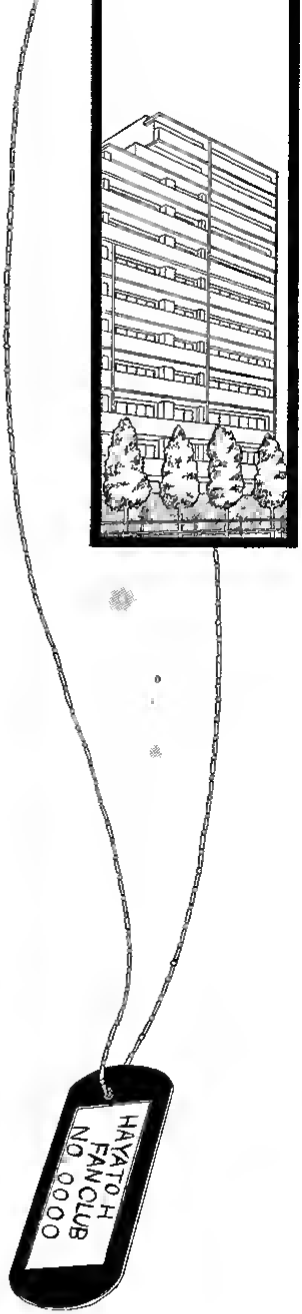
BUT WELL...
WHAT DO YOU CALL THIS FEELING?
I GUESS I KIND OF
FEEL BETTER NOW.
IT'S HARD TO PUT IT INTO WORDS,


BUT THIS IS PROBABLY
THE FIRST TIME
INSTEAD OF HER PATTING ME ON MY HEAD,
OR JUST TELLING ME SOMETHING,
MAO HAS VENTED HER FEELINGS TOWARD ME.

SHE LOOKED SO UPSET.
BECAUSE OF ME,
AHH, I SEE NOW.
I SHOULD HAVE JUST DONE THIS FROM THE START.
TO THINK THAT I'D FEEL THIS SATISFIED JUST FROM DOING THAT.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...? ARE YOU A MASOCHIST? OR A SADIST?
Did you want to upset her, or did you want her to reject you?
HAHA!
BESIDES, EVEN THOUGH CELEBRITIES ARE IN THE BUSINESS OF MOVING PEOPLE'S HEARTS INSTEAD OF DOING STUFF LIKE THAT,
YOU'RE JUST A FAILURE IF YOU CAN ONLY MOVE SOMEONE'S HEART IN DESPERATION!
GOOD POINT...
I'm sorry.

...BUT,
Rustle
YOU DID THE BEST YOU COULD DO...
FOR A WEAK PIPSQUEAK,
YEAH,
THANKS.

TO MAO.
I HAVE TO GIVE THIS BACK
SHE WAS REALLY MAD AT ME.
BUT WOULD SHE LET ME SEE HER?
I KNOW THAT.
...AND SHE'LL REJECT ME FOR SURE.
BUT THEN WHY AM I THIS CALM?


HAYATO H
FAN CLUB
NO. 0000

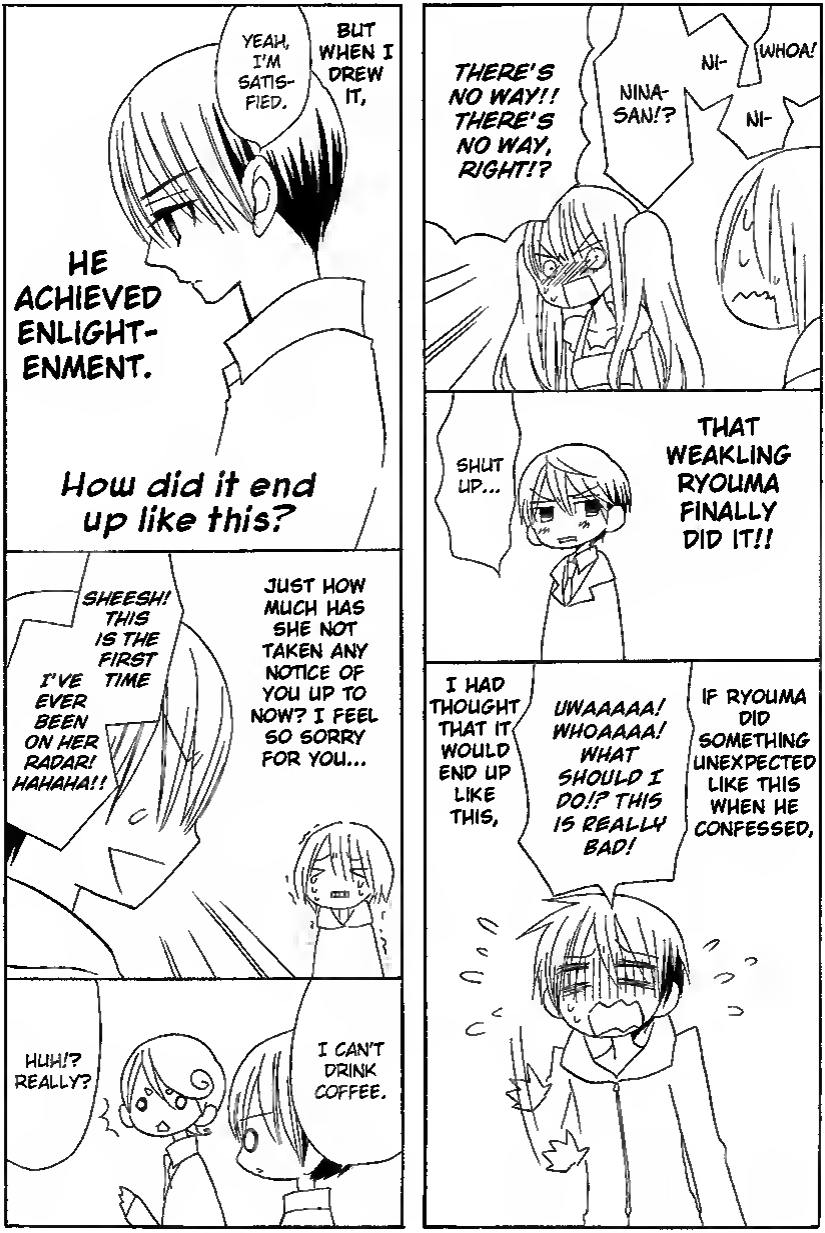
HM?
KEN-JIROU.
SORRY, RYOUMA.
IT TOOK LONGER THAN I THOUGHT.
HMM?
WH-
WHAT?
WELL, YOU LOOK KIND OF COOL,
LIKE THERE'S THIS WEIGHT OFF YOUR SHOULDERS.
HUH!?
DID YOU LOSE YOUR VIRGINITY?
NO, YOU MORONIC BASTARD!

EH HEH! I THOUGHT YOU WERE A VIRGIN.
AH! DAMN IT!
WELL, MORE IMPORTANTLY,
LISTEN TO THIS! YOU'VE GOT A BIG JOB LINED UP!
HUH ...!?
IT SEEMS LIKE THE DIRECTOR OF "JIN" HAS TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU,
YOU'LL BE STARRING IN A MOVIE ON YOUR OWN!!
SO HE SPECIFICALLY NOMINATED YOU!
It's a big promotion for you!!

THAT DIRECTOR HAS A LOT OF INFLUENCE RIGHT NOW,
SO IF THIS GOES WELL, YOU'LL BE GETTING MORE JOBS AGAIN,
.....
AND TOPPLING HAYATO-KUN WOULDN'T BE TOO FAR OFF, EITHER!
YOU'LL BE BUSIER STARTING NEXT MONTH!!
...ACTUALLY,
TURN THIS DOWN FOR ME.
SURE THING! IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU GET GOOD NEWS LIKE THIS ..
Excuse me, coffee for two!

HUH!?
...I DON'T NEED ANY MORE JOBS.

FD NG! 11


YEAH, I'M SATIS-FIED.
BUT WHEN I DREW IT,
HE ACHIEVED ENLIGHT-ENMENT.
How did it end up like this?
THERE'S NO WAY!! THERE'S NO WAY, RIGHT!?
NINA-SAN!?
NI-
WHOA!
NI-
SHUT UP...
THAT WEAKLING RYOUMA FINALLY DID IT!!
I HAD THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD END UP LIKE THIS,
UWAAAAA! WHOAAAA! WHAT SHOULD I DO!? THIS IS REALLY BAD!
IF RYOUMA DID SOMETHING UNEXPECTED LIKE THIS WHEN HE CONFESSED,
SHEESH! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER BEEN ON HER RADAR! HAHAHA!!
JUST HOW MUCH HAS SHE NOT TAKEN ANY NOTICE OF YOU UP TO NOW? I FEEL SO SORRY FOR YOU...
HUH!? REALLY?
I CAN'T DRINK COFFEE.

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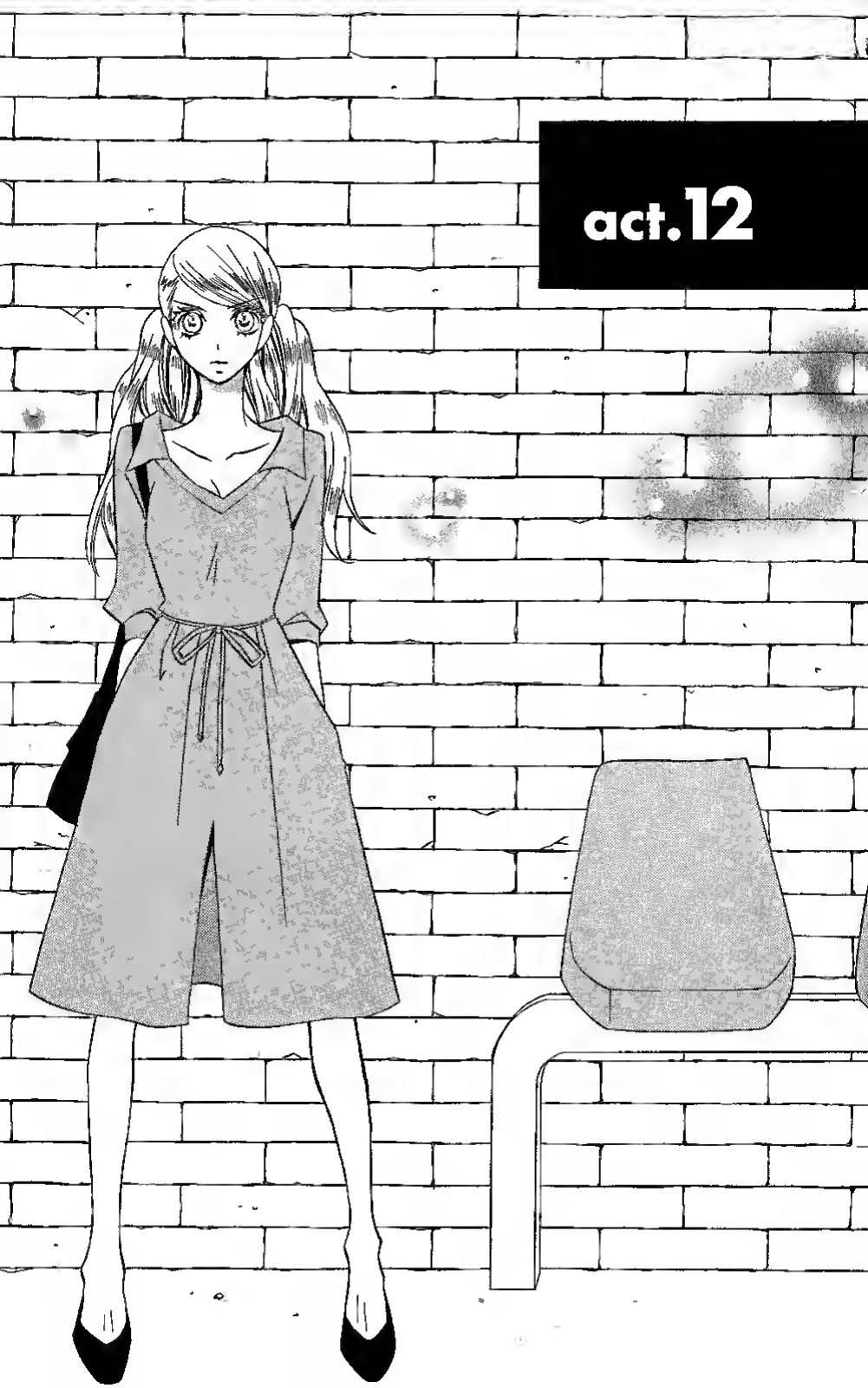
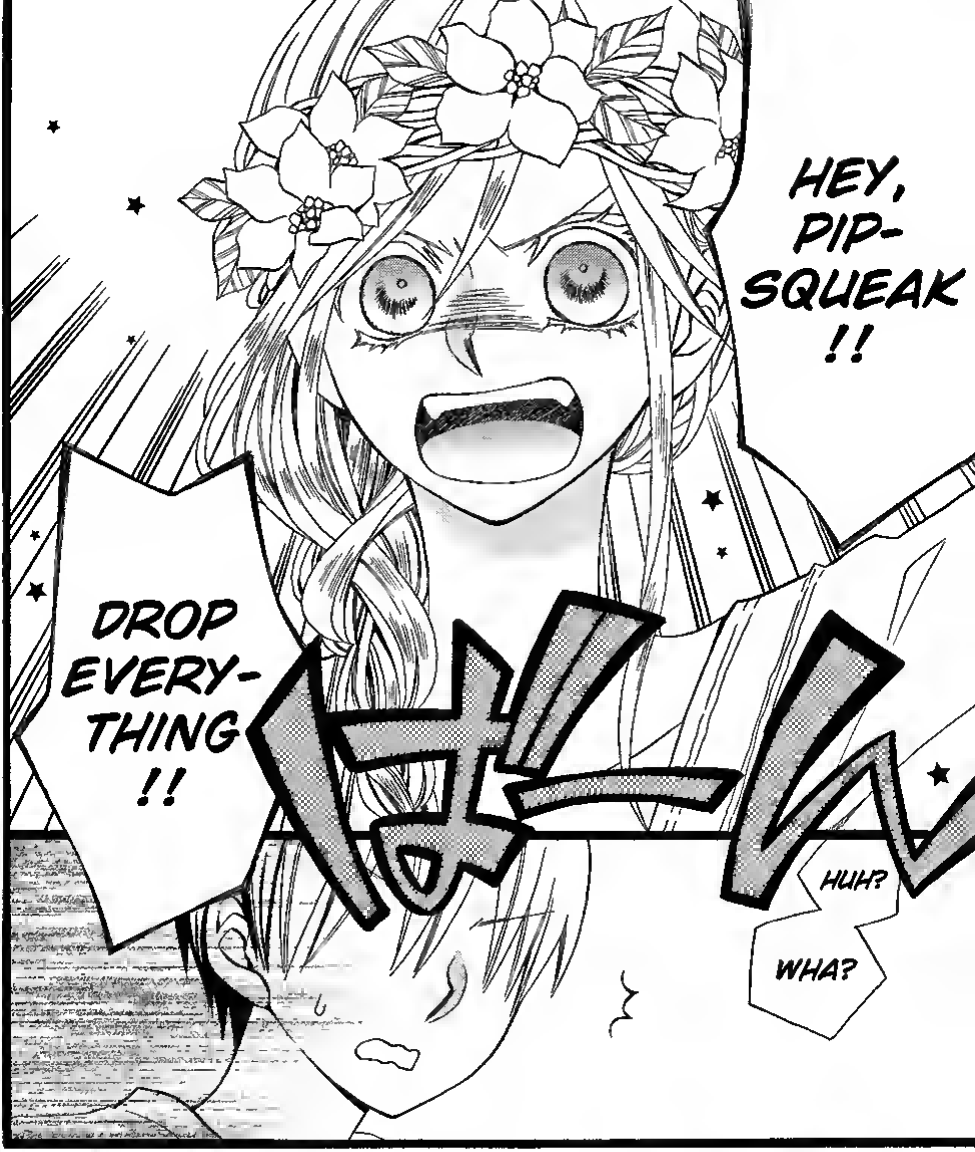
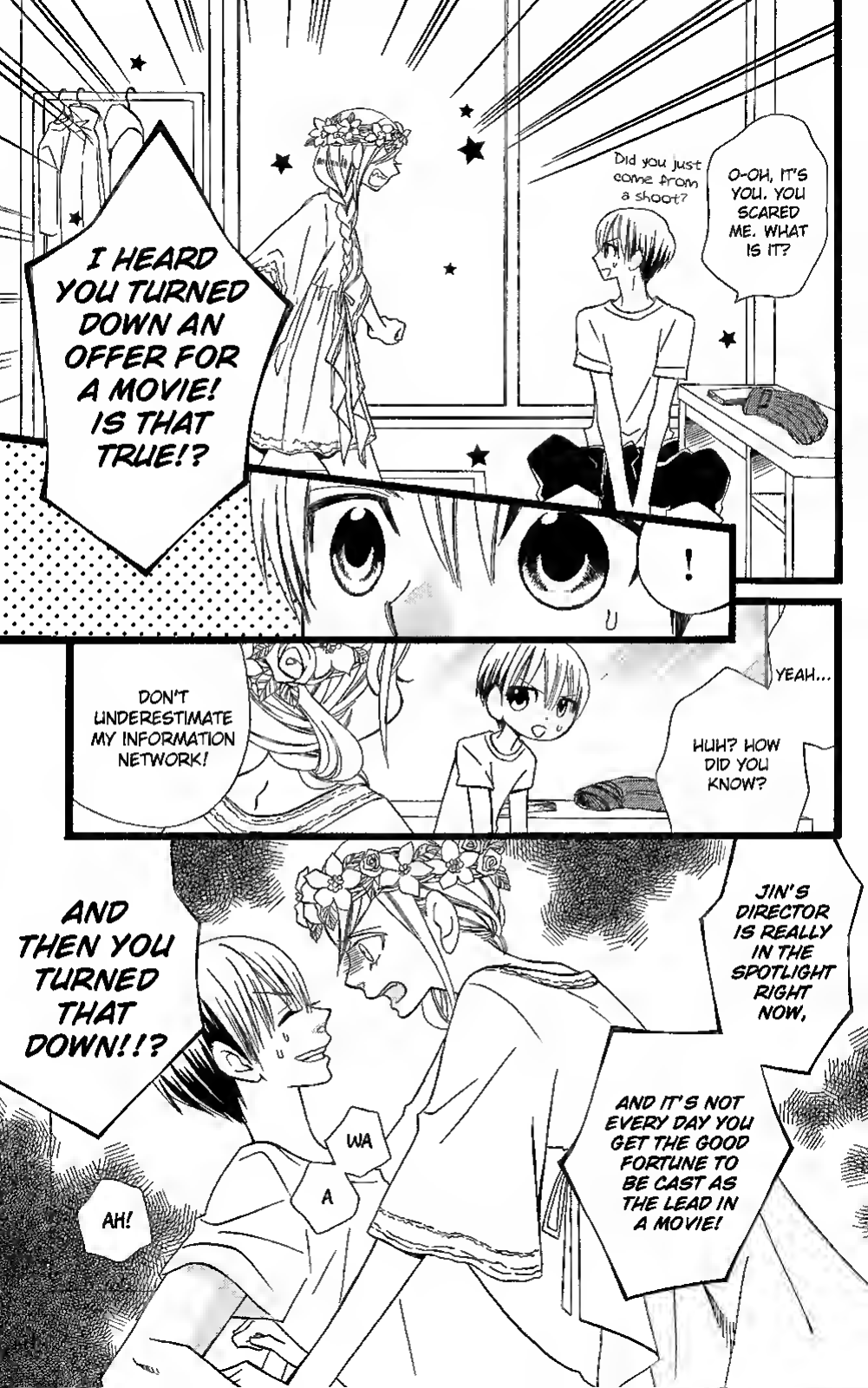



HEY, PIP-SQUEAK !!
DROP EVERY-THING !!
ドボーン
HUH?
WHA?

You're so cool, Nina-san!
I'm not waiting
I'm going by myself
Who are you waiting for?


I HEARD YOU TURNED DOWN AN OFFER FOR A MOVIE! IS THAT TRUE!?
Did you just come from a shoot?
O-OH, IT'S YOU. YOU SCARED ME. WHAT IS IT?
!
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE MY INFORMATION NETWORK!
YEAH...
HUH? HOW DID YOU KNOW?
AND THEN YOU TURNED THAT DOWN!!?
JIN'S DIRECTOR IS REALLY IN THE SPOTLIGHT RIGHT NOW,
AND IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU GET THE GOOD FORTUNE TO BE CAST AS THE LEAD IN A MOVIE!
AH!
WA
A

HAVE YOU LOST CONFIDENCE BECAUSE OF THAT GIRL...?
DIDN'T YOU DO THE BEST YOU COULD...?
I WOULDN'T SAY...
I'VE LOST CONFIDENCE, I GUESS.
IT'S JUST
THAT I'M SATISFIED NOW.

I WANTED TO MOVE MAO'S HEART.
I MADE MY WAY INTO THIS WORLD JUST BECAUSE
HUH ...?
SO I GUESS I'VE ALREADY ACHIEVED MY GOAL.
MAO'S FEELINGS STIRRED BECAUSE OF ME,
AND EVEN THOUGH SHE LOOKED LIKE THAT,
JUST LIKE YOU SAID, I DID SOMETHING PITIFUL IN DESPERATION,
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
I CAN'T DO MY JOB LIKE ALL OF YOU WHO ARE WORKING SO HARD AT WHAT YOU DO.
AS I FEEL NOW,

...ARE YOU PLANNING ON QUITTING?
YEAH, WHEN I HEAR HER REPLY,
BUT I'LL FINISH UP THE JOBS I HAVE ON HAND NOW.
.....
NO,
WHEN I CONFESSED TO HER,
I REALIZED THAT THE ONE I LIKE ISN'T THE MAO WHO'D MAKE AN EXPRESSION LIKE THAT.
IT'S THE MAO WHO ONLY LOOKS STRAIGHT FORWARD.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA THROW YOUR PRIDE AWAY AND DO WHAT YOU CAN TO MAKE HER YOURS...?

THE MAO I LIKE ISN'T THE ONE WHO'D FALL IN LOVE WITH ME.
WHAT THE HELL?
YOU'RE DEFINITELY A MASOCHIST.
HAHA!
You think so?
IN THE END, I GUESS I DIDN'T SERIOUSLY LIKE HER...
IT'S LIKE AN IMPRINT ON A CHILDHOOD FRIEND.
WH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING ...?
OWW!
THAT'S DIFFERENT FROM BEING A MASOCHIST, PIPSQUEAK.

YOU SHOULDN'T BE TALKING ABOUT YOUR OWN FEELINGS LIKE THAT!
HEY, INSTEAD OF CALLING ME A PIPSQUEAK, HOW ABOUT YOU START CALLING ME BY MY NAME?
!
AND I'LL CALL YOU NINA.
HUH!? PIPSQUEAK IS ENOUGH FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU!!
EHHH?
Awww.

AH, YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?
HAYATO TOLD ME.
For "Taishou Romantic Flight"
COME TO THINK OF IT,
YOU GUYS ARE STAYING OVERNIGHT FOR THE AUDITION STARTING TOMORROW, RIGHT?
AND SO, I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK YOU.
Rattle
HAYATO.H FAN CLUB NO.0000
WHAT THE?
SO THEN MAO MANAKA AND HAYATO HONJOU
She dyed her hair again
ALREADY PRACTICALLY LIKE EACH OTHER.

"I DON'T THINK MAO WILL USE THIS TO GET CLOSER TO HIM,
BUT HAYATO MIGHT NOT KNOW WHO MAO IS WITHOUT THIS,
SO GIVE THIS BACK TO HER FOR ME."
IT'S AS IF HE'S NAILING HIMSELF IN THE COFFIN.
WHAT AN IDIOT...
WHERE IS THAT GIRL...?

ズーン

DO YOU FEEL VIOLATED THAT HE STOLE A KISS FROM YOU!?
NO WAY! I DON'T BELIEVE IT! ARE YOU DEPRESSED!?
EH!?
HUH!?

WHA ...!?
HOW SAD!
NOOOO!
DO YOU THINK OF THAT GUY AS WORSE THAN GARBAGE NOW!!?

I'M NOT THINKING SOME-THING LIKE THAT!!
THERE'S NO WAY I'D THINK THAT!
SO DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!
THIS IS WHY I CAN'T STAND THIN-SKINNED GIRLS.
OH HO, DID I HIT THE BULLS-EYE?
...BUT, SHE'S WORRYING ABOUT IT MORE THAN I EXPECTED.
IF I DON'T GIVE THIS BACK TO HER,
EVEN THAT PIPSQUEAK MIGHT STILL HAVE A CHANCE...

ALL RIGHT, GIRLS!
PLEASE GATHER AROUND OVER HERE!
BUT WELL, HE DID ASK ME TO DO IT...
OOPS... I MISSED MY CHANCE TO GIVE IT BACK.
ALL OF YOU WERE GIVEN THE SAME CONDITION TO SPEND TIME AT THIS INN FOR THE FINAL SCREENING.
IT'S CURRENTLY THE TAISHOU PERIOD, AND ALL OF YOU ARE FROM POOR FAMILIES WHO HAVE COME TO AN ELITE HOUSEHOLD...
WELL, EVEN WITHOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS, LOVE THAT'S BOUND TO BEGIN PROBABLY WILL IN THE END, ANYWAY.
HELLO!
AND STARTING NOW, THE LEAD ACTOR HAYATO HONJOU-KUN WILL ALSO BE JOINING IN ON YOUR ACTIVITIES.

I'M HAYATO HONJOU, AND I'VE BEEN GIVEN THE LEAD ROLE!
IT'S NICE TO MEET ALL OF YOU!
WOW! HE'S SO COOL! IT'S REALLY HIM!
HE'S SO TALL!
Heh! HE LOOKS SO NICE THAT IT MAKES ME WONDER IF HE CAN SURVIVE IN THIS WORLD.

AH!
NO!
HAYATO-KUN?
Is something wrong?
120
THERE'S NO WAY SHE'D BE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
BUT IT'S JUST MY IMAGINA-TION...
SHE SEEMS... SIMILAR,

IT SEEMS LIKE HAYATO HONJOU ALSO FELT SOMETHING WHEN HE SAW HER,
SO THAT GIRL MAKES EXPRESSIONS LIKE THAT, TOO...
WHOA...
SO AT THIS POINT,
ISN'T IT JUST A MATTER OF TIME...?

THIS IS THAT ONE SCENE, RIGHT?
SO WE'RE EATING...
IT'S A CLASSIC SETUP !!!
THE ONE WHERE THE GIRL GREW UP IN A POOR FAMILY AND GETS FLUSTERED BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T KNOW THE RIGHT TABLE MANNERS.
Ahhhh
Whisper
BUT I'M GONNA MAKE SURE TO PULL OFF EVEN A ROLE LIKE THIS!
MUNCH
With your hands!?
I'VE HAD A GOOD UPBRINGING EVER SINCE I WAS BORN, SO EVEN IF I DID IT NORMALLY, I'D JUST END UP COMING OFF AS A CELEBRITY!!!
MAO MANAKA !?
ALL RIGHT, HOW ARE YOU GONNA ACT,

SHE'S EATING NORMALLY!
Chew...
H-HEY!!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU!?
THE MAO MANAKA I KNOW WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
Y-
YEAH.
Ahhhh! I got steak sauce on your kimono!!
I THOUGHT SHE LOOKED SIMILAR,
BUT I GUESS I WAS WRONG, AFTER ALL.

RATTLE
!
THAT GIRL
HAD THIS SORT OF POWER TO DRAW IN EVERYTHING AROUND HER, AFTER ALL.
CLENCH...
IF I GIVE THIS BACK TO HER,
HAYATO HONJOU WILL REALIZE WHO THIS GIRL IS,
AND IF THAT HAPPENS,
I'M SURE HER MOOD WILL GO BACK TO NORMAL AND SHE'LL GO BACK TO BEING MY RIVAL.

BUT IF THAT HAPPENS,
WILL HE END UP
LEAVING THIS WORLD?

ALL RIGHT,
THIS IS ALL OF MY STUFF.
HM?
I DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO STAY HERE ANYMORE.

YES...?
Who is it?
I DON'T KNOW THIS NUMBER ...
RYOU-MA!!
!
HUH?
NINA?
YEAH!
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NUMBER...?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO UNDER-ESTIMATE MY INFORMATION NETWORK!?
HUH!? ARE YOU KIDDING ME? THAT'S SCARY.

HURRY UP AND COME TO THE AUDITION VENUE RIGHT AWAY.
HUH!?
MAO MANAKA IS BOTHERED BECAUSE OF YOU AND IS ACTING STRANGE.
SHE'S NOT HER USUAL SELF.
AND BECAUSE SHE'S ACTING LIKE THAT,
HAYATO HONJOU HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO RECOGNIZE HER, EITHER.

HUH ...!?
SO COME OVER HERE,
AND TELL HER DIRECTLY
THAT YOU LIKE HER FOR BEING SOMEONE WHO LOOKS FORWARD,
AND THAT YOU DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF HER BEING UPSET LIKE THAT BECAUSE OF YOU.
YOU HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO SETTLE THIS ON YOUR OWN!
NINA?
...?
.....
...IT.

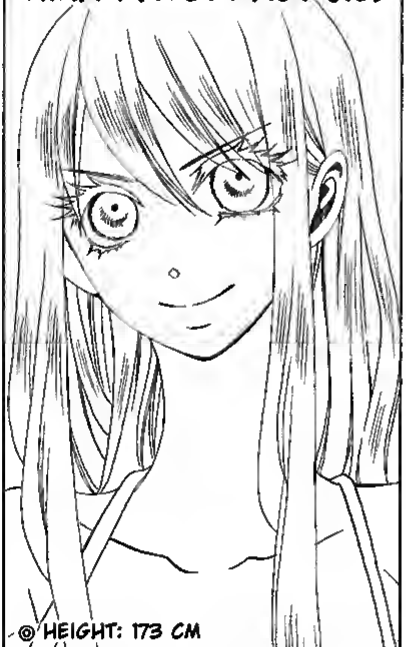
.....
DON'T
MAKE ME DO IT...
TO BE CONTINUED

FD NG! 12

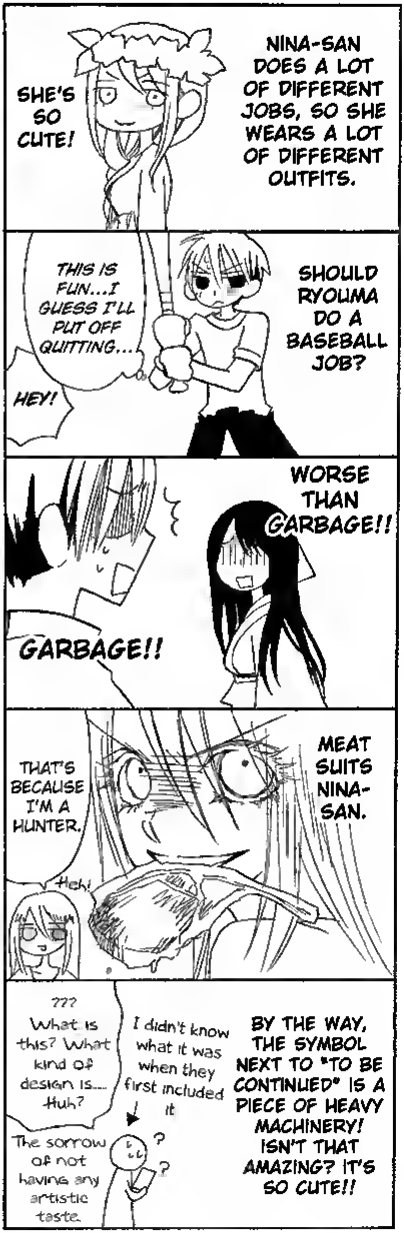
THERE AREN'T THAT MANY PAGES LEFT, SO I'LL USE THIS SPACE FOR AN

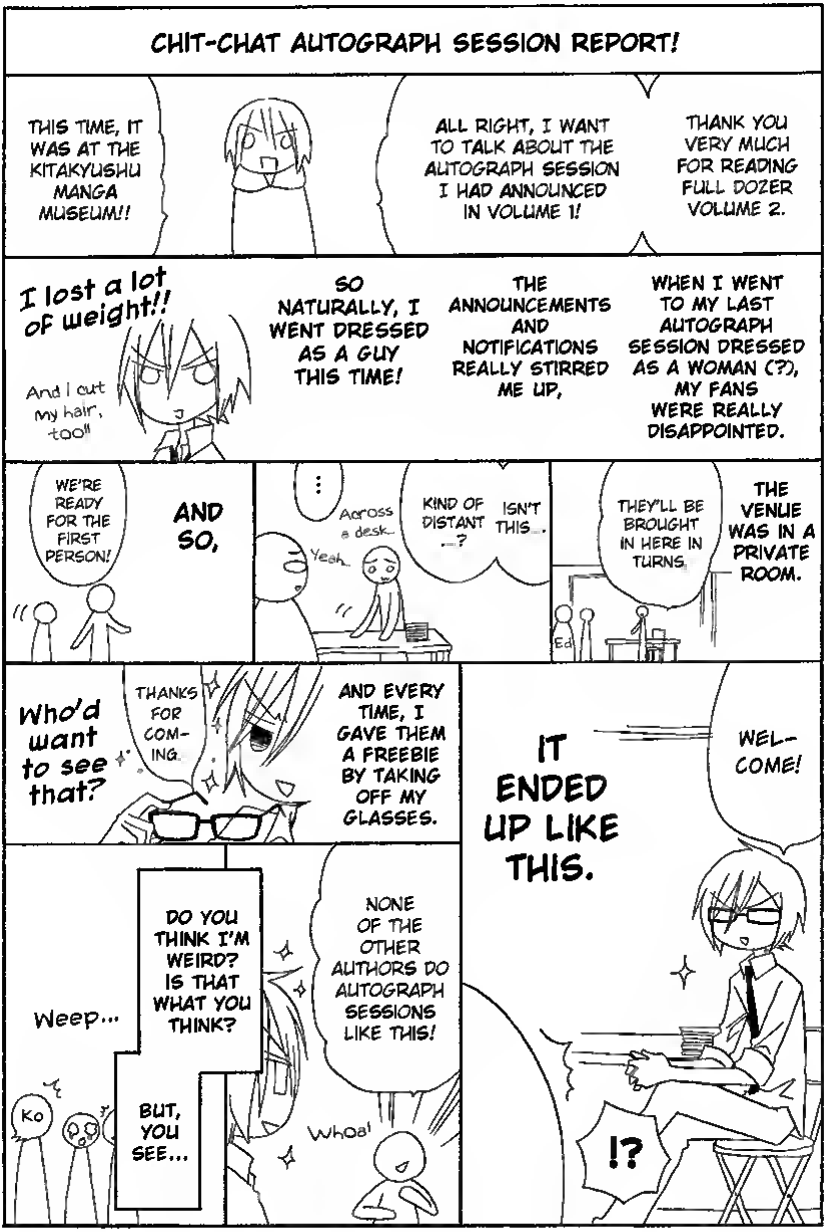
FD STAR PROFILE

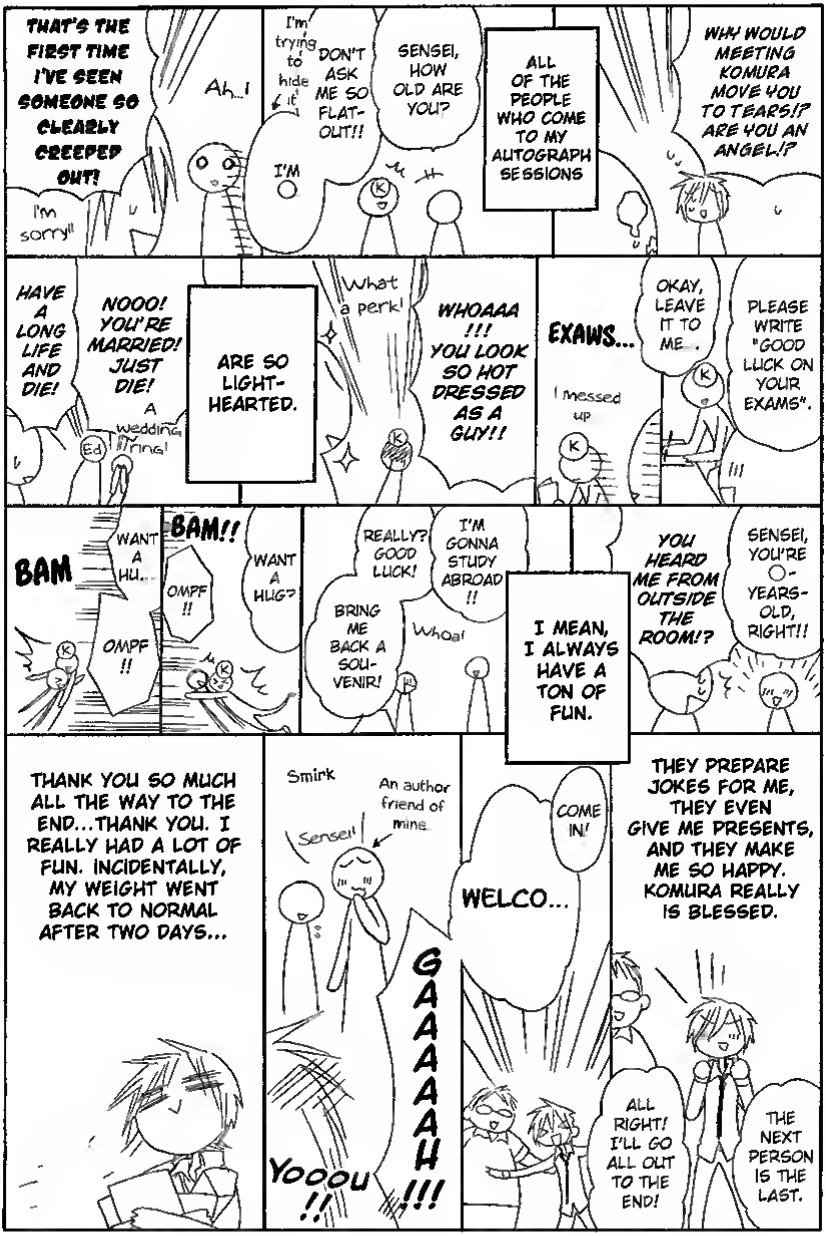
NINA KATSURAGI (16)



- HEIGHT: 173 CM
- HER FATHER IS AN A-LIST ACTOR. HER MOTHER IS A HOLLYWOOD ACTRESS (SHE'S RUSSIAN)
- SHE LOVES BEING PRAISED.
- EVEN IF SHE'S NOT BEING PRAISED, SHE ALSO LIKES THINKING OF HERSELF AS AMAZING AND GETTING DRUNK ON HERSELF.
- SHE HATES PEOPLE WITHOUT ANY CONVICTION OR THOSE THAT DON'T PUT IN ANY EFFORT.
- SHE LIKES JAPANESE TV, SO INSTEAD OF OVERSEAS, SHE WANTS TO STAND AT THE TOP OF JAPAN'S ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY.


SHE'S SO CUTE!
NINA-SAN DOES A LOT OF DIFFERENT JOBS, SO SHE WEARS A LOT OF DIFFERENT OUTFITS.
THIS IS FUN...I GUESS I'LL PUT OFF QUITTING...
HEY!
SHOULD RYOUMA DO A BASEBALL JOB?
WORSE THAN GARBAGE!!
GARBAGE!!
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M A HUNTER.
Heh!
MEAT SUITS NINA-SAN.
???
What is this? What kind of design is... Huh?
I didn't know what it was when they first included it
The sorrow of not having any artistic taste.
BY THE WAY, THE SYMBOL NEXT TO "TO BE CONTINUED" IS A PIECE OF HEAVY MACHINERY! ISN'T THAT AMAZING? IT'S SO CUTE!!


CHIT-CHAT AUTOGRAPH SESSION REPORT!
THIS TIME, IT WAS AT THE KITAKYUSHU MANGA MUSEUM!!
ALL RIGHT, I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE AUTOGRAPH SESSION I HAD ANNOUNCED IN VOLUME 1!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR READING FULL DOZER VOLUME 2.
I lost a lot of weight!!
And I cut my hair, too!!
SO NATURALLY, I WENT DRESSED AS A GUY THIS TIME!
THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTIFICATIONS REALLY STIRRED ME UP,
WHEN I WENT TO MY LAST AUTOGRAPH SESSION DRESSED AS A WOMAN (?), MY FANS WERE REALLY DISAPPOINTED.
WE'RE READY FOR THE FIRST PERSON!
AND SO,
Across a desk...
Yeah.
KIND OF DISTANT ...?
ISN'T THIS...
THEY'LL BE BROUGHT IN HERE IN TURNS.
THE VENUE WAS IN A PRIVATE ROOM.
Who'd want to see that?
THANKS FOR COM-ING.
AND EVERY TIME, I GAVE THEM A FREEBIE BY TAKING OFF MY GLASSES.
IT ENDED UP LIKE THIS.
WEL-COME!
!?
Weep...
DO YOU THINK I'M WEIRD? IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK?
BUT, YOU SEE...
NONE OF THE OTHER AUTHORS DO AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS LIKE THIS!
Whoa!
Ko


THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN SOMEONE SO CLEARLY CREEPED OUT!
Ah...!
I'm sorry!!
I'm trying to hide it
DON'T ASK ME SO FLAT-OUT!!
I'M ○
SENSEI, HOW OLD ARE YOU?
ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO COME TO MY AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS
WHY WOULD MEETING KOMURA MOVE YOU TO TEARS!? ARE YOU AN ANGEL!?
HAVE A LONG LIFE AND DIE!
NOOO! YOU'RE MARRIED! JUST DIE!
A wedding ring!
Ed
ARE SO LIGHT-HEARTED.
What a perk!
WHOAAA!!! YOU LOOK SO HOT DRESSED AS A GUY!!
EXAWS...
I messed up
OKAY, LEAVE IT TO ME.
PLEASE WRITE "GOOD LUCK ON YOUR EXAMS".
BAM
WANT A HU...
OMPF!!
BAM!!
WANT A HUG?
OMPF!!
REALLY? GOOD LUCK!
I'M GONNA STUDY ABROAD!!
BRING ME BACK A SOUVENIR!
Whoa!
I MEAN, I ALWAYS HAVE A TON OF FUN.
YOU HEARD ME FROM OUTSIDE THE ROOM!?
SENSEI, YOU'RE ○-YEARS-OLD, RIGHT!!
THANK YOU SO MUCH ALL THE WAY TO THE END...THANK YOU. I REALLY HAD A LOT OF FUN. INCIDENTALLY, MY WEIGHT WENT BACK TO NORMAL AFTER TWO DAYS...
Smirk
An author friend of mine
Sensei!
GAAAAAH!!!
Yoooou!!
COME IN!
WELCO...
THEY PREPARE JOKES FOR ME, THEY EVEN GIVE ME PRESENTS, AND THEY MAKE ME SO HAPPY. KOMURA REALLY IS BLESSED.
ALL RIGHT! I'LL GO ALL OUT TO THE END!
THE NEXT PERSON IS THE LAST.

SPECIAL THANKS

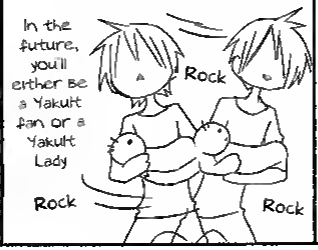
- My editor.
- My successive editors.
- Margaret's editing staff
- Shueisha
- The Kitakyushu Manga Museum
- All of the people who took part in the publishing of this book/work.
- The designer
- All of my friends.
- All of my fellow manga authors
- My family, dogs and cats

AND ALSO ALL OF THE PRECIOUS READERS!!

RECENT EVENTS

AH, THE NEXT FULL DOZER IS THE LAST VOLUME!! PLEASE READ IT ALL THE WAY TO THE END!

AND A LITTLE WHILE AFTER THAT, MY YOUNGER SISTER GAVE BIRTH TO A BABY GIRL! SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE MY SISTER, AND IT'S A SHOCK HOW STRONG HER GENES ARE. RECENTLY, FEATURES FROM MY SISTER'S HUSBAND HAVE ALSO STARTED TO SHOW UP. GENES ARE SO AMAZING! WHEN I ROCK HER TO THE TUNE OF TOKYO ONDO, SHE STOPS CRYING.



AFTER THE AUTOGRAPH SESSION ENDED, I WENT HOME TO SEE MY POMERANIAN. HE'S JUST LIKE A MOVING FURBALL!! MUFF FROM MY LAST SERIES "USOLILY" IS DIRECTLY BASED ON HIM, AND HE'S JUST SO CUTE! OH MY GOSH!!

PLEASE SEND LETTERS...

〒101-8050

HITOTSUBASHI, CHIYODA, TOKYO 2-5-10
C/O SHUEISHA "MARGARET EDITING DEPARTMENT"

AYUMI KOMURA

Until then!

BREAKING NEWS FOR THE YOUNGER BROTHER FROM "JIN"

BEHIND THE SCENES OF RYOUMA 15 MUROTO'S RETREAT FROM SHOWBIZ!?

A SECRET RELATION-SHIP BETWEEN MANAGERS OF A MAJOR TALENT AGENCY COMES TO LIGHT!? THE SCOOP BEHIND THEIR ROMANTIC TRYST THAT WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN AN AUDITION!

SCOOP!!

AN EXTRA EDITION PRESSING ACTRESS NINA KATSURAGI ON HER SECRET TO BEAUTY:

"FIRST-RATE RISTORANTES"

ALL 3 CHAPTERS PUBLISHED TOGETHER!!

HAYATO HONJOU, THE LEAD ACTOR OF AN ATTENTION-GRABBING MOVIE THAT WILL START FILMING THIS SUMMER, DISAPPEARED AT AN OVERNIGHT AUDITION TO CHOOSE THE MOVIE'S HEROINE. DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT ARE VERIFIED BASED ON THE TESTIMONIES OF THOSE AT THE SCENE.

MYSTERY AT THE AUDITION OF "TAISHOU ROMANTIC FLIGHT"!

HAYATO 19 HONJOU'S MYSTERIOUS DISPPEAR-ANCE

FINAL VOL

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Full Dozer

フルドーザー 2

小村あゆみ

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先輩俳優とのドキドキ同棲生活＆茉央の前にライバル女優現る!?

ずっと好きだった幼馴染のあの子・茉央を追いかけて自分も芸能界に飛び込んだ、ごくフツーな男子・遠森のサクセス物語第2巻！ もぅ1役で出演したドラマの大ヒットで一躍有名になった遠森。言惟人ばかりが通う高校で、茉央とうふふ♡な高校生活…のハズが、突然あらわれた茉央のライバル女優・ニーナの激アツ芸能人磨なキャラのおかげで学園生活は大騒ぎっ!!

【収録作品】Full Dozer②

YAMAGISHI IS A CHARACTER I EXACTLY CREATED JUST ALL OF A SUDDEN, BUT SHE MOVES AROUND FREELY FOR ME, SO I LOVE HER.

Full Dozer 02

AYUMI KOMURA

Index

Full Dozer ··· 3

Story

RYOUMA, A NORMAL GUY WHO'S ONLY SPECIALTY IS BASEBALL, HAS ALWAYS HAD ONE-SIDED FEELINGS FOR HIS CHILDHOOD FRIEND MAO. WHILE STILL UNABLE TO CONFESS HIS FEELINGS, MAO FALLS IN LOVE WITH HAYATO HONJOU, AN ACTOR SHE MET BY CHANCE IN THE PARK. JUST WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S BECOME ONE OF HAYATO'S FANS WHO CHERISHES THE DOG TAG HE LEFT BEHIND WITH HER, MAO ENTERS THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY ALL OF A SUDDEN SO THAT SHE CAN GET CLOSER TO HAYATO! RYOUMA CHASES AFTER MAO AND ALSO JUMPS INTO THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY, BUT HIS OVERLY SELF-CONSCIOUS NATURE WORKS AGAINST HIM, AND HE KEEPS FAILING AUDITIONS.

THE STAND-IN ROLE THAT JUMPED INTO HIS LAP AS A GODSEND WAS AMAZINGLY FOR PLAYING THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF HIS RIVAL IN LOVE, HAYATO. EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE FOR ONE SCENE, THE PERFORMANCE HAYATO DREW OUT OF RYOUMA WAS RECEIVED FAVORABLY, SO IT WAS DECIDED THAT HE'D CONTINUE WITH THE ROLE. FURTHERMORE, TO PREPARE FOR THE ROLE, HE'S GOING TO BE LIVING WITH HAYATO!? ON THE FIRST DAY OF LIVING TOGETHER, THE SAME DOG TAG MAO HAS COMES OUT OF HAYATO'S POCKET!?

act.7
Safety First
HAYATOH
FENCING
NO.0000

"HE GAVE ME THAT."
"THE GIRL I LIKE IS HOLDING ONTO THE SAME ONE FOR ME..."
HAYATO.H FAN CLUB NO. 0000

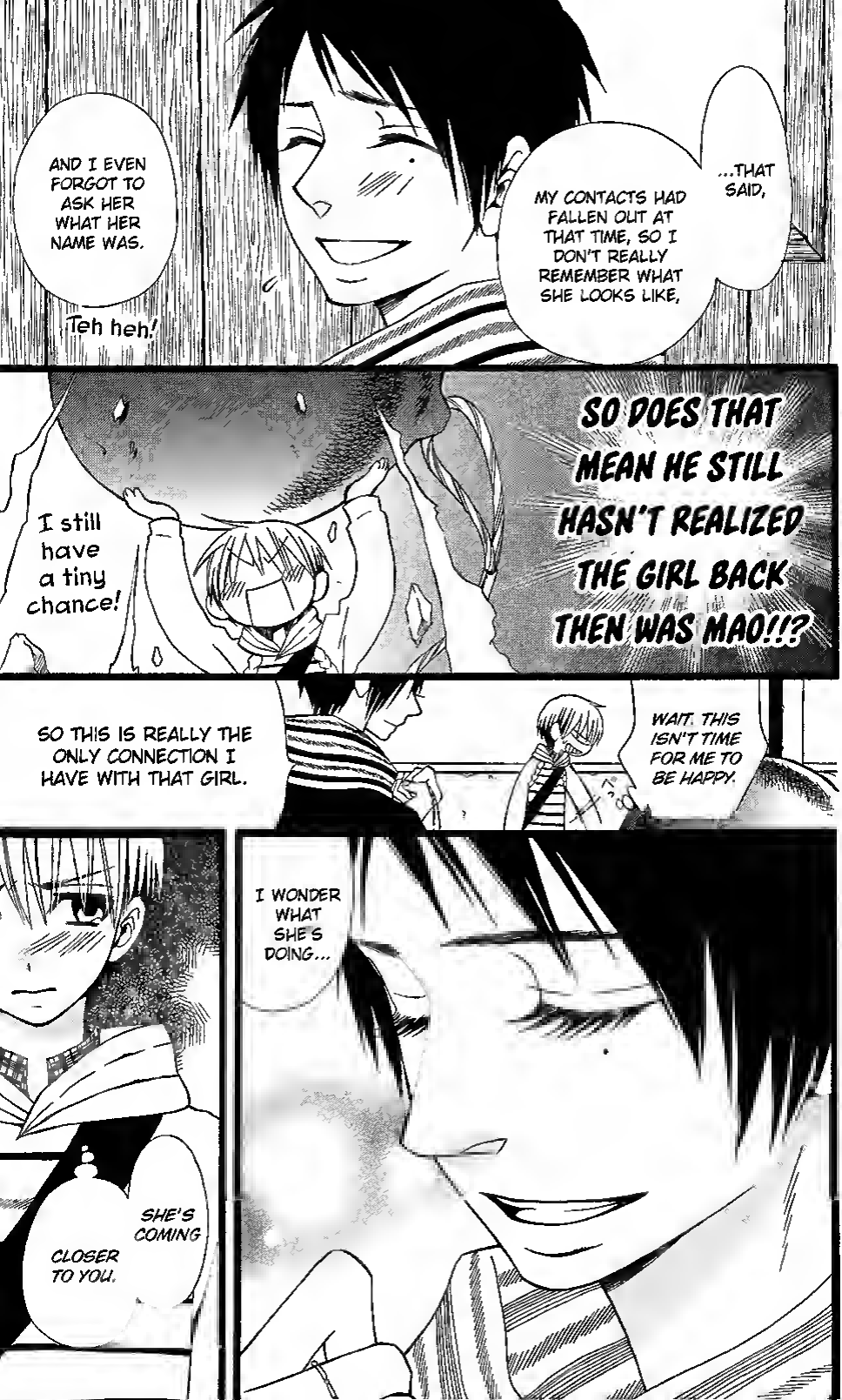
Whooooa! I don't want that! What kind of fetish is that, stupid!?
THAT'S SCARY!
Want it?
A lot of my skin's peeled off!

WHAT?
EH?
WAIT A SECOND.
HUH?
DOES THAT MEAN BY ANY CHANCE THAT
THESE TWO!!!
LIKE EACH OTHER...!?

WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA!! WAIT WAIT WAIT WAIT!!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT'S FOR CERTAIN!!
B-
BY THE WAY,
WHAT'S WITH THE NUMBER ON THAT TAG?
AHH,
EACH OF THEM ARE INSCRIBED WITH A NUMBER,
SO THEY'RE ONE OF A KIND.
AH, BUT I GUESS THERE ISN'T ONLY ONE OF IT.
DID YOU KNOW? DOG TAGS COME IN PAIRS.
S-
TH...THERE'S JUST TWO OF THE SAME THING IN THE WORLD...
SO THE GIRL
THAT YOU LIKE HAS ONE JUST LIKE THAT...?
YEP!

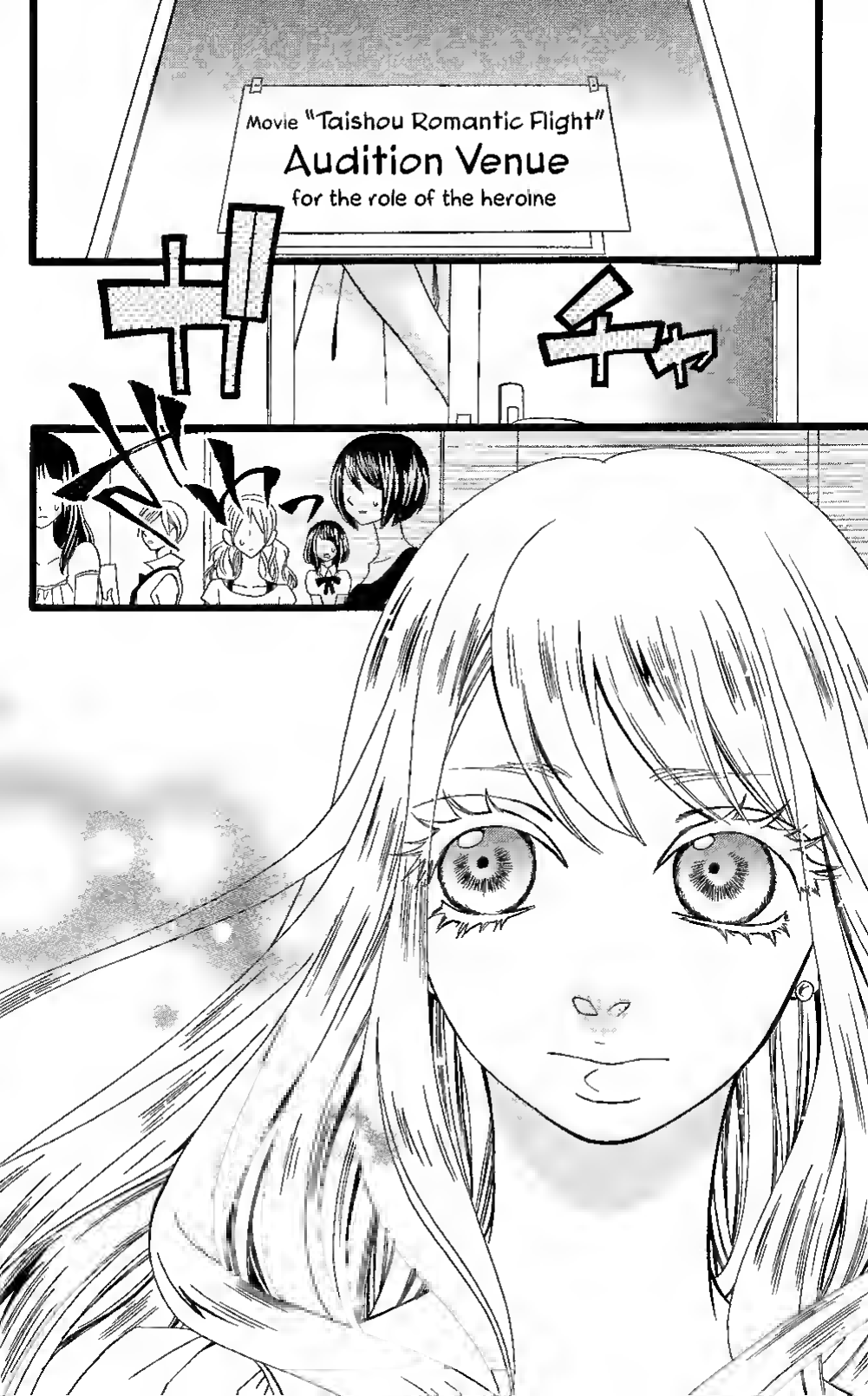
THAT'S MY HOME AREA!
I MET HER WHEN I WENT TO SHOOT ON LOCATION IN X PREFECTURE.
IT'S MAO !!!
SHE SAID SHE WAS PRACTICING HOW TO DO A BACK HIP CIRCLE, AND SHE WAS REALLY WORKING HARD AT IT.
SHE MADE ME FEEL THAT I HAVE TO WORK A LOT HARDER AT WHAT I DO, TOO.

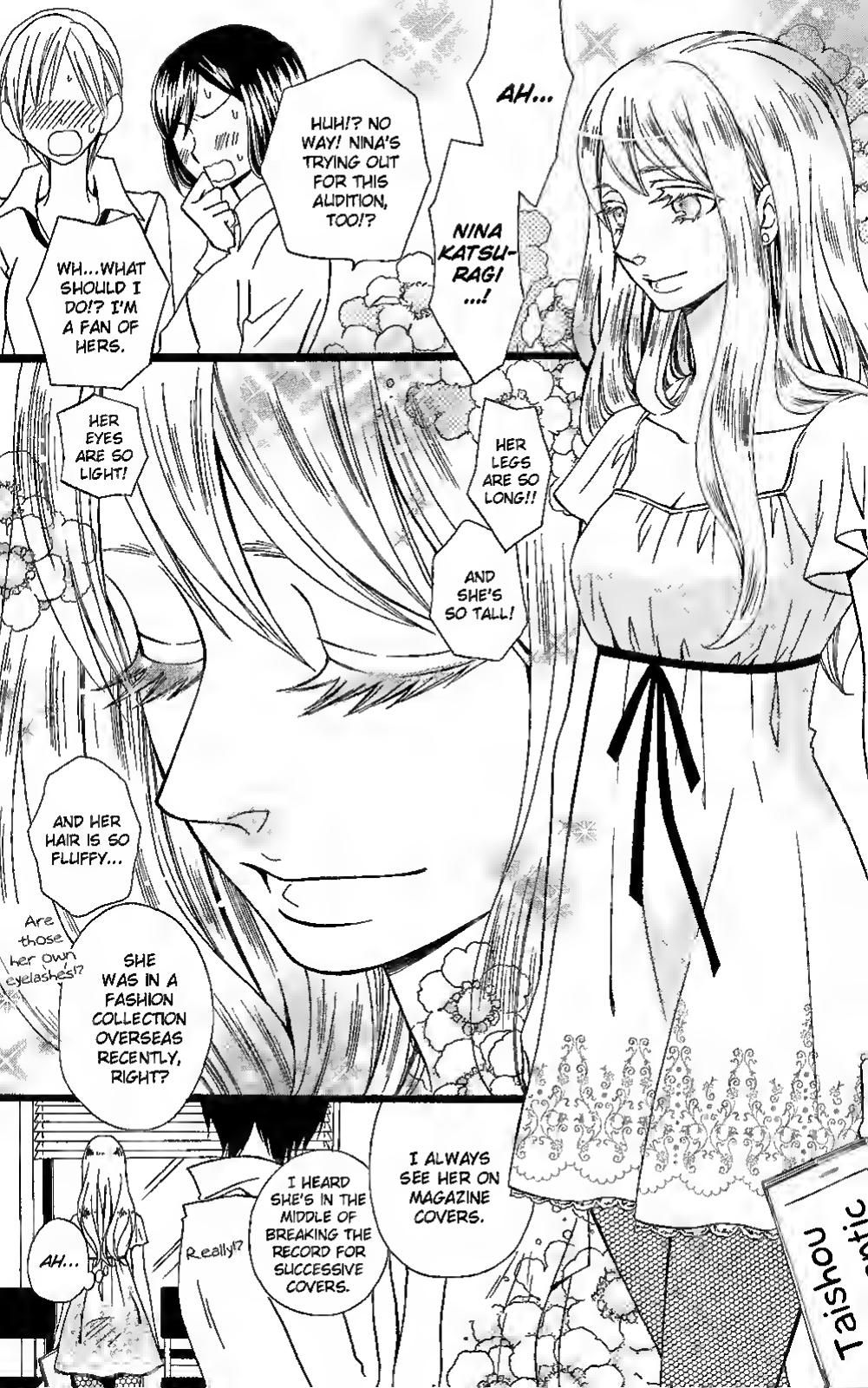
AT THAT TIME, MY CAREER WASN'T GOING TOO HOT.
BUT WHEN I MET THAT GIRL, SHE REALLY ENCOURAGED ME,
AND I THOUGHT THAT I COULD STILL WORK HARD AT IT, TOO.
THANKS TO THAT GIRL BEING THERE FOR ME,
I CAN BE THE WAY I AM NOW.
IS THIS FOR REAL?
THEN THAT MEANS
ANY CHANCE I HAD IS...


AND I EVEN FORGOT TO ASK HER WHAT HER NAME WAS.
Teh heh!
...THAT SAID,
MY CONTACTS HAD FALLEN OUT AT THAT TIME, SO I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE.
SO DOES THAT MEAN HE STILL HASN'T REALIZED THE GIRL BACK THEN WAS MAO!!?
I still have a tiny chance!
SO THIS IS REALLY THE ONLY CONNECTION I HAVE WITH THAT GIRL.
WAIT. THIS ISN'T TIME FOR ME TO BE HAPPY.
I WONDER WHAT SHE'S DOING...
SHE'S COMING CLOSER TO YOU.

JUST LIKE A BULLDOZER SO THAT SHE CAN REACH "HAYATO HONJOU".
RIGHT NOW, SHE'S FOCUSED SOLELY ON PAVING A ROAD
Starring Hayato Honjou! Audition venue for the movie "Taishou Romantic Flight"

ARE YOU OKAY GOING BY YOURSELF, MAO?
WANT ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU?
I'M FINE BY MYSELF.
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T TREAT ME LIKE I'M A KID.
INSTEAD OF TREATING YOU LIKE A KID, IT'S JUST THAT YOU HAVE A POOR SENSE OF DIRECTION...
←The venue is this way
AND THEY POSTED THESE SIGNS, TOO!
AHH, SO SHE'S WELL AWARE OF IT.
"Tashou Romantic Flight" audition venue
← 1FF 3rd Meeting Room
THAT GUY IS STARRING IN THIS MOVIE.
I'LL...
DEFIN-ITELY GET THIS ROLE...!


Movie "Taishou Romantic Flight"
Audition Venue
for the role of the heroine


AH...
NINA KATSURAGI ...!
HUH!? NO WAY! NINA'S TRYING OUT FOR THIS AUDITION, TOO!?
WH...WHAT SHOULD I DO!? I'M A FAN OF HERS.
HER EYES ARE SO LIGHT!
HER LEGS ARE SO LONG!!
AND SHE'S SO TALL!
AND HER HAIR IS SO FLUFFY...
Are those her own eyelashes!?
SHE WAS IN A FASHION COLLECTION OVERSEAS RECENTLY, RIGHT?
I ALWAYS SEE HER ON MAGAZINE COVERS.
I HEARD SHE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF BREAKING THE RECORD FOR SUCCESSIVE COVERS.
Really!?
AH...
Taishou

TH... THIS FEELS SO GOOD!
Ahhhh...
AH!
AHHHH!
PRAISE ME MORE AND MORE!!!
She's so dazzling!
It's like she's sparkling!
PRAISE ME!
PRAISE ME MORE!!
HMPH!
WHAT'S WITH HER!? SHE'S JUST A SECOND GENERATION ACTRESS WHO HAS AN A-LIST ACTOR AS A DAD AND A HOLLYWOOD ACTRESS AS A MOM, RIGHT?
SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO RIDE ON HER PARENTS' COATTAILS FOREVER.
HEH!
SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT.
In fact, say a lot more.

THE MORE I'LL SHINE EVEN BRIGHTER WHEN I PLOW THROUGH THEM WITH MY OWN TALENT.
W. WOW!! SHE'S NOT JUST RIDING ON HER PARENTS' COATTAILS!!
THE MORE YOU USE THOSE SORTS OF LABELS ON ME,
AHHH...
THAT'D BE SO CATHARTIC!!!
It's too early to let loose in a place like this!
CALM DOWN, NINA!
OH NO!
Ahhh! Ahhh!
DON'T WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE JUST BASED ON HOW WE LOOK?
BUT THIS IS A ROLE FOR A GIRL WHO LOOKS TRADITIONALLY JAPANESE, RIGHT?

HMPH ...
I'M NOT SOMEONE WHO'D LOSE BECAUSE OF A HANDICAP LIKE THAT...
AHH, OH NO!
I STILL ENDED UP GETTING LOST...
MADE IT!

IT... IT'S THAT GIRL!
WHEW...
SHE'S BEEN EXPLODING ONTO THE SCENE LATELY...
SHE'S TRYING OUT FOR THIS, TOO!?
THAT'S
THE GIRL THAT NABBED A CONTRACT AFTER SHE PLOWED THROUGH THAT AUDITION HOSTED BY THE VILLAGE AGENCY...
WHY DO I GET LOST EVEN WHEN I'M FOLLOWING SIGNS?
HAS SOME SPELL BEEN CAST ON ME?
Taishou
!?
AHH...
IT'S OVER...

.....
HER AGENCY IS STRONG, TOO...
FLAT OUT...
THEY'RE DEFINITELY GONNA PICK HER...
WHOA, WHAT'S WITH THIS MOOD...?
EVERYONE'S GIVING UP ON IT SO QUICKLY...
THEY'RE BEING OVER-WHELMED BY "SOMETHING" THAT GIRL HAS.
WHEN I CAME IN...
EVEN THOUGH THIS DIDN'T HAPPEN

I want to look over the script once more.
HMM...
SHOULD I SIT DOWN, TOO?
HELLO,
NOW, LITTLE GIRL,
I'M TRYING OUT FOR THIS AUDITION TODAY, TOO.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
COWER DOWN BEFORE ME!!!

OHH...!
HOW MAGNIFI-CENT!
!?
YOU'RE SO CAPTIVATING!
WHA ...?
WHOA!
AS EXPECTED AS THE ENTERTAIN-MENT WORLD,
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE BLESSED WITH GOOD LOOKS!
AND AMONG THEM, YOU'RE ESPECIALLY BEAUTIFUL! REALLY, YOU'RE SO PLEASING TO THE EYE!
HEY!!
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME!?
?
I'M JUST STATING WHAT I HONESTLY THINK...
WHAT'S WITH THIS GIRL!? SHE PISSES ME OFF!
And yet I was trying to make her lose confidence by making her shudder from my beauty
ALL RIGHT THEN, LET'S START THE INITIAL SCREENING...

YOU'LL BE TAKING TURNS SAYING THESE LINES.
THERE'S NO WAY I'M LOSING TO HER!
Ahhh!
WHAT ELSE DID YOU EXPECT?
YOU DON'T JUST HAVE GOOD LOOKS...
OHH! IMPRES-SIVE...
NEXT, NO. 31, MANAKA-SAN.
OKAY!

WE'LL TAKE A 15 MINUTE BREAK.
EH HEH!
THAT WAS NOTHING.
WASN'T NO. 31 GREAT?
YEAH!
I HAD TO SAY THOSE LINES,
But I had the best performance!
HUH!?
SHE'S LACKING IN SKILL, BUT SHE HAS THIS CERTAIN ALLURE TO HER,
SO SHOULD WE GO WITH HER?
None of the other girls struck a chord with me...
KATSURAGI'S DAUGHTER IS MORE EXPERIENCED AND HER PERFORMANCE WAS BETTER,
BUT WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT THIS ROLE GOING TO A "TRADITIONAL JAPANESE BEAUTY"...

WHEW...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I THOUGHT MOVIE AUDITIONS
WOULD BE MORE INTERESTING THAN THIS.
I THOUGHT EVERYONE WOULD HAVE MORE OF A SPARKLE IN THEIR EYES
AND THAT WE'D BE SCRAMBLING FOR THE ROLE.
BUT EVERYONE ALREADY LOOKS AS IF THEY'VE GIVEN UP.
WHAT A LET DOWN...
THAT ONE BEAUTIFUL GIRL WAS THE ONLY ONE
WHO WAS OVERFLOWING WITH DRIVE.
BUT I DON'T SEE HER ANY-WHERE.
I WONDER WHERE SHE WENT.
THAT'S ABOUT IT FOR THE BREAK.
LET'S START THE SECOND SCREENING...
Click

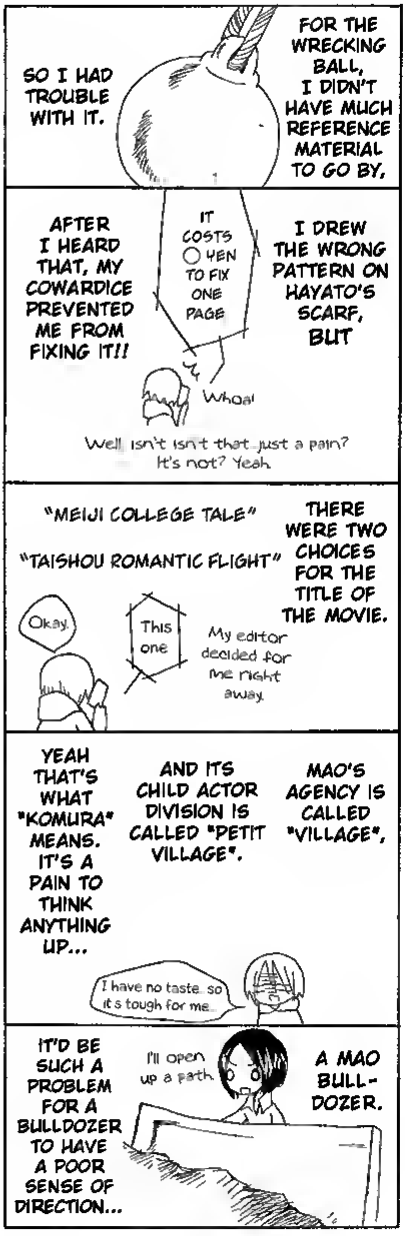
HUH ...!?
HER HAIR
AND EYES...
THAT'S NINA...?
SHE'D GO THAT FAR RIGHT FROM THE AUDITION...?
I'M DEFINITELY NOT GOING TO LOSE TO YOU.

THIS ROLE
IS MINE!

AHH,
WHAT DO I DO?
MY GOAL WAS TO GET THIS ROLE,
SO IT DIDN'T MATTER WHETHER DOING THAT WAS INTERESTING OR NOT, AND YET...

FD NG! 7

NINA-SAN'S HERE!!!
SHE SUDDENLY APPEARED WHEN I WAS REDOING THE STORYBOARD, BUT WELL...
SHE'S WONDERFUL!
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?
I LIKE NINA-SAN'S GRIN OF PURE ECSTASY.
BUT SINCE THIS IS A GIRL'S MANGA, COULD YOU MAKE SLIGHTLY MORE GENTLER EXPRESSIONS ...?
YOU'RE NOT THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE SAYING THAT!


SO I HAD TROUBLE WITH IT.
FOR THE WRECKING BALL, I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH REFERENCE MATERIAL TO GO BY,
AFTER I HEARD THAT, MY COWARDICE PREVENTED ME FROM FIXING IT!!
IT COSTS ○ YEN TO FIX ONE PAGE
I DREW THE WRONG PATTERN ON HAYATO'S SCARF, BUT
Whoa!
Well, isn't isn't that just a pain? It's not? Yeah.
"MEIJI COLLEGE TALE"
"TAISHOU ROMANTIC FLIGHT"
THERE WERE TWO CHOICES FOR THE TITLE OF THE MOVIE.
Okay.
This one
My editor decided for me right away.
YEAH THAT'S WHAT "KOMURA" MEANS. IT'S A PAIN TO THINK ANYTHING UP...
AND ITS CHILD ACTOR DIVISION IS CALLED "PETIT VILLAGE".
MAO'S AGENCY IS CALLED "VILLAGE",
I have no taste, so it's tough for me...
IT'D BE SUCH A PROBLEM FOR A BULLDOZER TO HAVE A POOR SENSE OF DIRECTION...
I'll open up a path.
A MAO BULL-DOZER.

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~sweeter than honey~
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act.8

SUPER THANKS

LET'S HURRY UP AND DEEPEN OUR BOND AS BROTHERS ALREADY!!
HEY !!

WHATEVER, JUST DO IT!! THEY'RE SURROUNDING YOU!!
Acting like a celebrity by wearing glasses for show or just sunglasses is embarrassing, so...
Oh my gosh!
His glasses aren't just for show. He needs them to see.

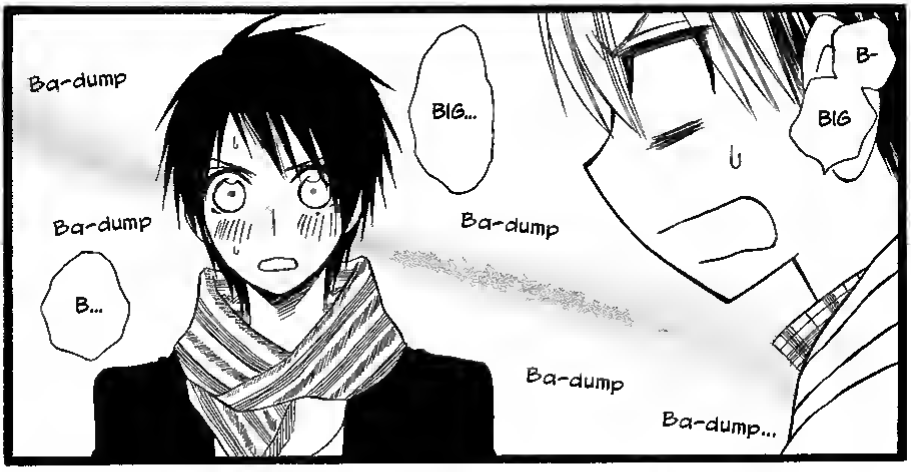
WH-
WHAT'S THE MATTER, RYOUMA-KUN?
YOU'RE SO MOTIVATED.
I can't drink coffee, but I'll take some milk.
What do you want to drink? Coffee?
YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH ME BEING MOTIVATED !!?
NO, IT'S REALLY REASSURING.

HE HASN'T REALIZED THAT,
THIS GUY AND MAO ALREADY PRETTY MUCH 100% LIKE EACH OTHER.
BUT IF THEY MEET EACH OTHER AND SEE THOSE MATCHING TAGS, IT'S OVER FOR ME.
Milk~
Damn, he's cute.

IN OTHER WORDS, BEFORE THEY SEE EACH OTHER, ALL I CAN DO IS SHOW MAO THAT I'M WORKING HARD AT IT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE!!
IF I DON'T WORK HARD AT IT, I WON'T EVEN BE ON HER RADAR!!

COME ON!!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!!?
あ!
I HAVE TO THINK OF HAYATO HONJOU AS MY BROTHER!!
TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, FOR THE ROLE I'VE BEEN GIVEN,
OF ALL PEOPLE!!
FOR NOW...
WELL...
HMM...
TRY CALLING ME "BIG BRO"!!
HUH !!?

OKAY? COME ON, SAY IT!
ISN'T IT IMPORTANT TO GET OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT?
I MEAN, WE'RE BROTHERS!
WHA!?
WH-
WH-


Ba-dump
Ba-dump
B...
BIG...
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Ba-dump...
B-
BIG

AWW...
I CAN'T DO IT, YOU MORON!

HMM, I SEE...
You don't have to add a heart mark, you know
SUDDENLY SAYING SOMETHING LIKE "BIG BRO!♡" IS SETTING THE BAR TOO HIGH!!

THEN "HAYATO" IS FINE.
MY LITTLE BROTHER IN THE STORY CALLS ME "JIN",
AND AT ANY RATE, IT'S HARD TO CALL ME BY MY FULL NAME, RIGHT?
AH! HE KNOWS I'VE BEEN CALLING HIM BY HIS FULL NAME.
HOW EMBARRASSING!
YOU CALL KENJIROU-SAN BY HIS NAME,
SO YOU CAN DO THAT FOR ME, TOO.
SHUT UP! I JUST DO THAT TO PEOPLE I TRUST!!
IF I ACCEPT YOU AS MY BROTHER, I GUESS I COULD PROBABLY CALL YOU THAT!
SO HE TRUSTS, KENJIROU-SAN...?
I'm so jealous
Hmph!
OKAY, I'LL DO MY BEST.
HEY,
THEY HAVEN'T FINISHED REVISING THE SCRIPT FOR THE DRAMA, RIGHT?
IF WE HAD IT, WE COULD DO THIS WITH THE LINES...

YOU HAVE IT!!?
WHY DIDN'T I GET ONE!!?
Script
YOU'RE NOT THE TYPE TO WORK THROUGH A SCRIPT, SO FOR NOW, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO JUST FOCUS ON PREPARING FOR YOUR ROLE AS MY BROTHER.
That's what the director said
HUH!?
AND SO, I WENT ALL OUT AND GOT THESE READY FOR US!♪
Besides, just what am I..?
IS THAT OKAY FOR A DRAMA SERIES...?
TAA-DAA!

WHOOO-OOOOA!
WOW!! THAT WAS AMAZING!
DO YOU PLAY BASEBALL, RYOUMA-KUN!?
I USED TO...
Smack
BUT WHY ARE WE PLAYING CATCH!?
HUH? BUT DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS SOMETHING A FAMILY WOULD DO?
BUT STILL, WOULDN'T A FATHER AND SON BE DOING THIS!?
HUH!?
Smack
.....

OHH!!
THIS GUY REALLY IS SCATTER-BRAINED...
HEY! CAN YOU THROW A STRONGER FASTBALL?
AND HE RECOVERS SO FAST!
YEAH ...
AH!
AH!
OH...!
GAAAAH!

ARE YOU OKAY!!?
HEY!
A...
...HEH!
I MESSED UP A CELEBRITY'S FACE...
Since you asked for it
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CATCH IT!
SORRY ...!
You scared me!!
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING ABOUT, YOU MORON!?
IS THIS WHAT PLAYING CATCH WITH YOUR LITTLE BROTHER IS LIKE?
FWHAA! OH MAN!
THIS IS SO MUCH FUN!
THAT WAS AMAZING, SO IT REALLY WORKED ME UP.
YO-U'RE RIGHT, SORRY.

SORRY ABOUT MAKING YOU WORRY.
THANKS,
YOU'RE SUCH A NICE GUY, RYOUMA-KUN.
AHH,
THIS SUCKS.
EHh?
DON'T BE SO CASUAL ABOUT TOUCHING ME!!
Wanna grab a bite?
Ah, but I'm on a diet right now thanks to my role as that merciless guy seeking revenge!!
Then I'll make you something
What!?
EVEN THOUGH
I DON'T WANT TO UNDERSTAND SOMETHING LIKE THIS,

MAO.
GOOD NIGHT.
WANNA SLEEP TOGETHER EN?
HUH? BUT...
YOU CAN TAKE THE BED.
I FEEL LIKE I UNDER-STAND
WHY YOU FELL FOR HIM,
I'M THIRSTY ...
HNN..
WATER ...

!
TAKUMI...
CAN'T SLEEP?

I MEAN,
RYOUMA-KUN.
DID I WAKE YOU UP?
NO, I JUST WOKE UP TO GET SOME WATER.
JUST NOW,
HE CALLED ME "TAKUMI" SO NATURALLY.
WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU'RE STILL UP?
YEAH,
I DON'T HAVE A NATURAL GIFT FOR THIS,
SO UNLESS I DRILL EVERYTHING IN THE SCRIPT INTO MY HEAD AND DIGEST IT,
I CAN'T PROPERLY GET INTO THE ROLE.
EVERY-THING!?
YOU MEAN ALL OF IT!?
Not just your own lines!?
YEAH,
I DON'T HAVE A KNACK FOR THIS...
As embarrassing as that is to admit
THAT'S AMAZING.
A LOT OF EFFORT.
HE'S BEEN PUTTING IN
...
COULDN'T I CALL OUT TO HIM
RIGHT NOW?

EVEN IF I CAN'T CALL HIM "BIG BRO",
WHAT ABOUT "HAYATO"?
!
HEY, DO YOU HAVE ANY SIBLINGS?
Here
AH, NO, I DON'T.
Thanks
I SEE.
THERE'S SOMEONE I GREW UP WITH AS IF WE WERE SIBLINGS,
BUT I'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF US IN THAT WAY.

SHUT THE HELL UP!
Are you my dad!?
DO YOU LIKE HER!? YOU LIKE HER, RIGHT!!?
HUH!!?
WHAT!? ARE THEY A GIRL!? SO THEY'RE A GIRL!!
IS SHE YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND!?
HUH!?
YOU HAVE MY FULL SUPPORT!
BUT AS YOUR BIG BROTHER, I HAVE TO CHEER YOU ON!
WELL...
EHHH? WHY NOT? I'VE GOT YOUR BACK!
I DON'T NEED YOUR SUPPORT, MORON!
YOU MAY SAY THAT NOW...
B...BUT WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU AND I LIKED THE SAME GIRL!?

HO... HOLY SHIT! I DIDN'T WATCH WHAT I WAS SAYING!!!
AH!
HUH ...?
.....
EVEN IF THAT WERE THE CASE,
I'D STILL SUPPORT YOU.
...I'D HELP YOU OUT.

WHY?
.....!
DON'T SCREW AROUND WITH ME!!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN YOU'D SUPPORT ME!?
GET REAL!!
WHAT ABOUT THAT IS "BROTHERLY" !?
DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME!!
THIS IS THE WORST.

EVEN THOUGH
I ALMOST THOUGHT OF HIM AS MY OLDER BROTHER...
!!!
HE MAKES FUN OF ME,
AND IN THE END, HE NEVER INTENDED ON SEEING ME AS AN EQUAL,
RYOUMA!
GOOD MORNING!
HOW WAS LIVING TOGETHER?
WHOA! WHAT'S WITH YOU? YOU LOOK SO CRANKY!
Did preparing for the role not work out!?
YOU'VE BEEN ALLOWED TO LOOK AT THE SCRIPT,
SO GLANCE THROUGH IT.
Flip...

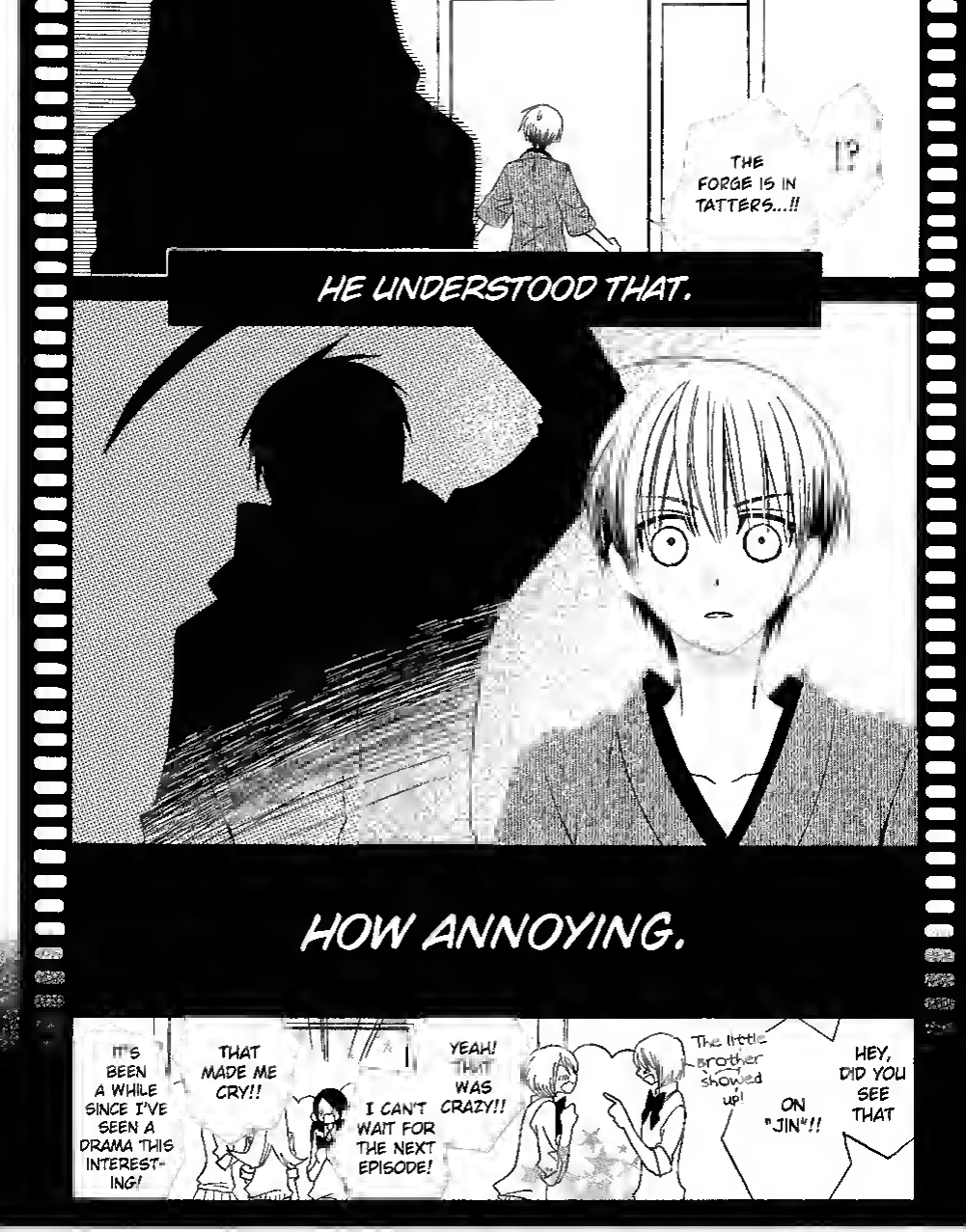
AHH.
SO THAT'S WHAT'S GOING ON.
WHOA!
THAT HURT...!
HA-YATO!
I WANNA RUN THROUGH MY LINES, SO HELP ME OUT!
MAO,

THIS GUY IS A FAIRLY
TENA-CIOUS JERK.
ACTION!
ハッ
JIN!

I DON'T KNOW IF I'D CALL THOSE WORKS OF ART OR NOT.
AND HE'S SO QUIET
HE'S KIND OF SCARY..
HE'S MAKING SWORDS IN THIS DAY AND AGE, RIGHT?
I WISH EVERYONE WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT..
JIN IS TALENTED, AND HE MAY BE QUIET, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY REALLY NICE!
EVERYONE HAS THE WRONG IDEA!!
YOU'RE SUCH A NICE GUY, TAKUMI-KUN.
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
BLUSH
I-I WOULDN'T SAY THAT..

JIN ..
I LIKE YOU. .
Haa!
WHY?
Haa!
Haa!
AHHH,
BUT...
THIS ISN'T ABOUT WHO FELL IN LOVE FIRST OR SECOND.
I KNOW THAT
NO. THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
BUT
I FELL IN LOVE WITH HER FIRST!
THIS IS ME.
I'M SORRY.
THAT'S PRECIOUS TO MY BROTHER.
I CAN'T
GET INVOLVED WITH SOMETHING

I ACCEPTED AND ADMIRED HIM, BUT I HATED HOW I'M NO MATCH FOR HIM.
EVEN THOUGH YOU LIKE HER, TOO...
DID YOU THINK I'D BE HAPPY ABOUT YOU HANDING HER OVER TO ME!? DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME!
!
WHY NOT !!?
I DON'T WANT YOU TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
EVEN IF I'M NOT THINKING ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE,
MY LINES FLOW OUT OF ME JUST THE WAY I AM.
TAKUMI ...!
BUT IS THAT HOW IT IS? BROTHERS AREN'T EQUAL FROM THE START.
Haa!
Haa!
BEING BROTHERS MIGHT BE ABOUT GOING THROUGH THIS SORT OF FRUSTRATION.

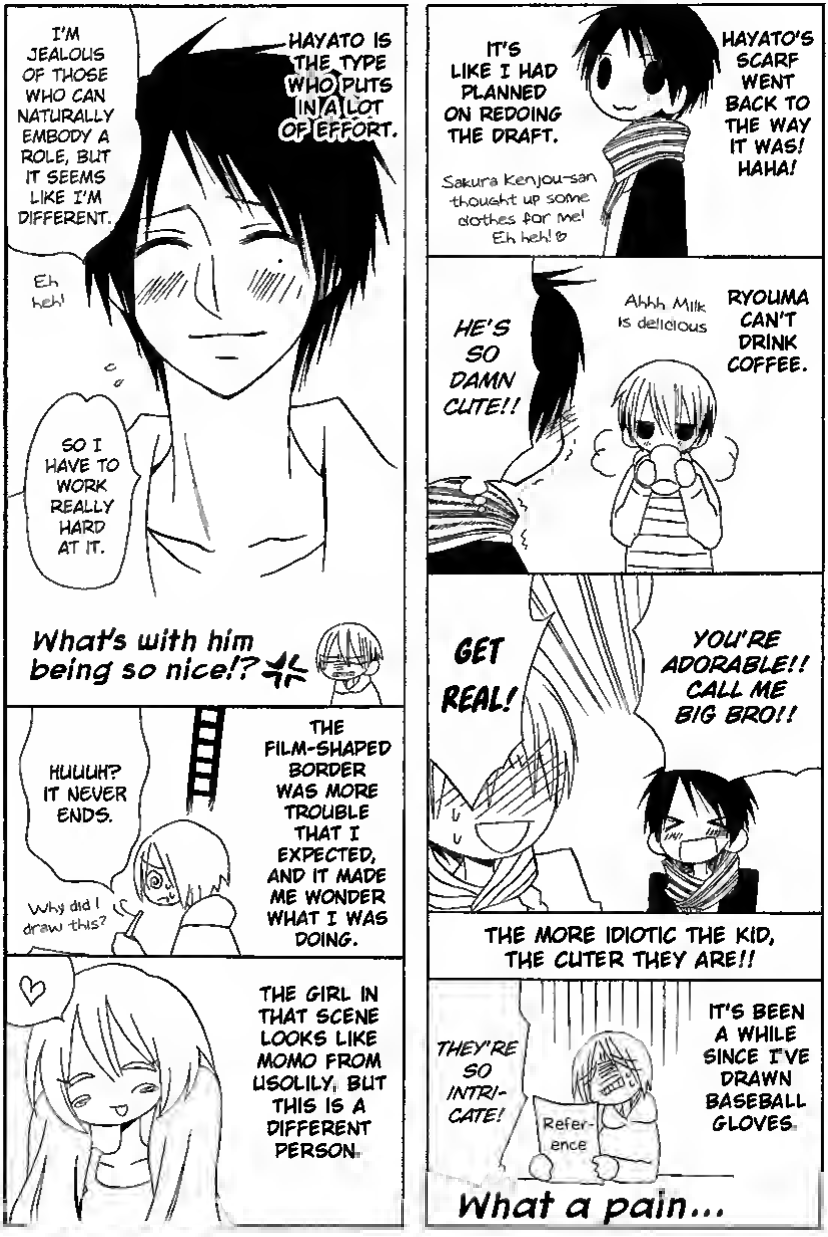

THE FORGE IS IN TATTERS...!!
!?
HE UNDERSTOOD THAT.
HOW ANNOYING.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE SEEN A DRAMA THIS INTERESTING!
THAT MADE ME CRY!!
I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE NEXT EPISODE!
YEAH! THAT WAS CRAZY!!
The little brother showed up!
ON "JIN"!!
HEY, DID YOU SEE THAT

GOT SOME PRETTY GOOD RATINGS.

MY FIRST APPEARANCE IN A DRAMA SERIES

AND SO,

FD NG! 8


I'M JEALOUS OF THOSE WHO CAN NATURALLY EMBODY A ROLE, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE I'M DIFFERENT.
HAYATO IS THE TYPE WHO PUTS IN A LOT OF EFFORT.
Eh heh!
SO I HAVE TO WORK REALLY HARD AT IT.
What's with him being so nice!?
HUUUH? IT NEVER ENDS.
Why did I draw this?
THE FILM-SHAPED BORDER WAS MORE TROUBLE THAT I EXPECTED, AND IT MADE ME WONDER WHAT I WAS DOING.
THE GIRL IN THAT SCENE LOOKS LIKE MOMO FROM USOLILY, BUT THIS IS A DIFFERENT PERSON.
IT'S LIKE I HAD PLANNED ON REDOING THE DRAFT.
Sakura Kenjou-san thought up some clothes for me! Eh heh! ♡
HAYATO'S SCARF WENT BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS! HAHA!
HE'S SO DAMN CUTE!!
Ahhh Milk is delicious
RYOUMA CAN'T DRINK COFFEE.
GET REAL!
YOU'RE ADORABLE!! CALL ME BIG BRO!!
THE MORE IDIOTIC THE KID, THE CUTER THEY ARE!!
THEY'RE SO INTRI-CATE!
Refer-ence
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE DRAWN BASEBALL GLOVES.
What a pain...

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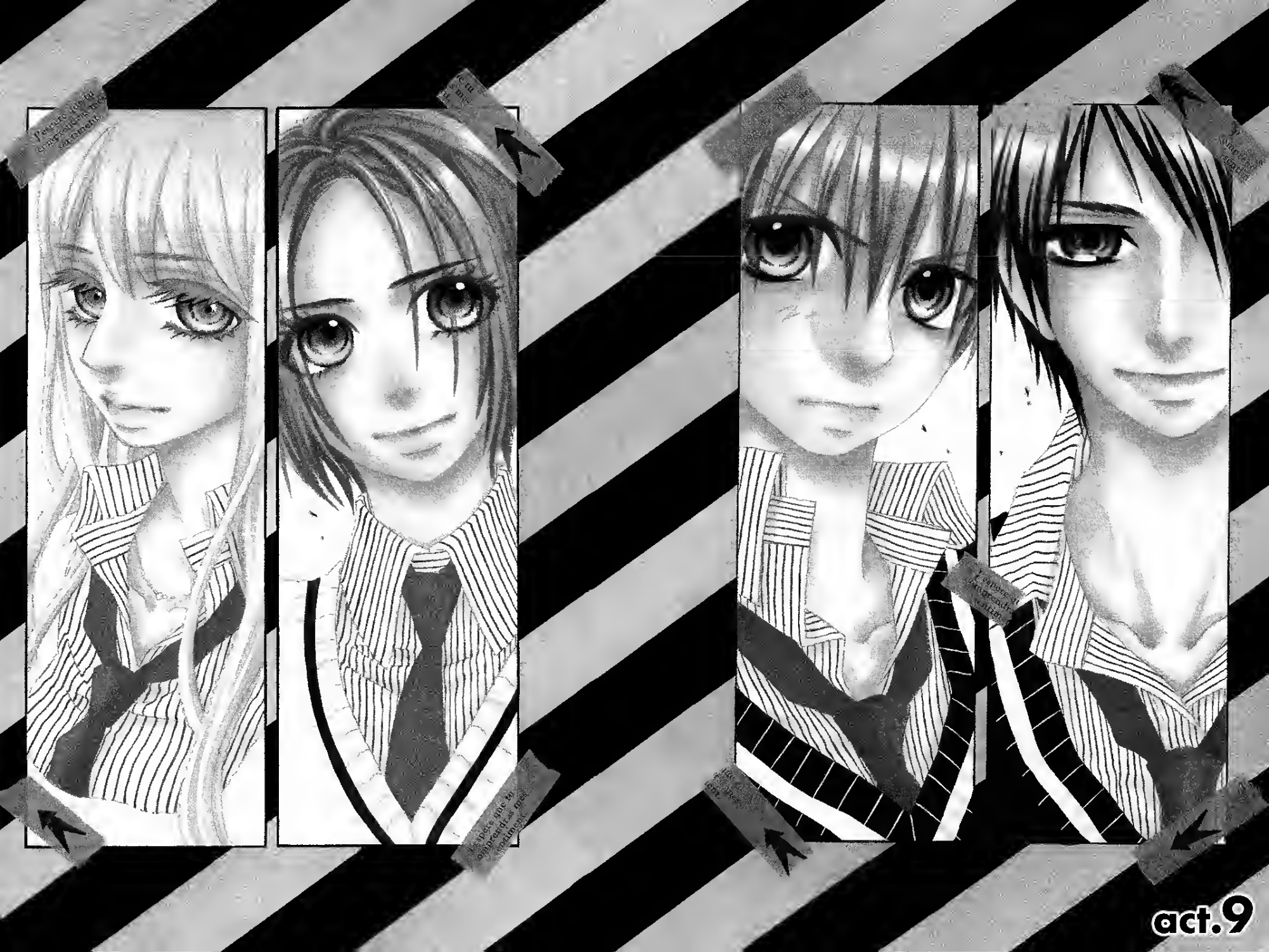
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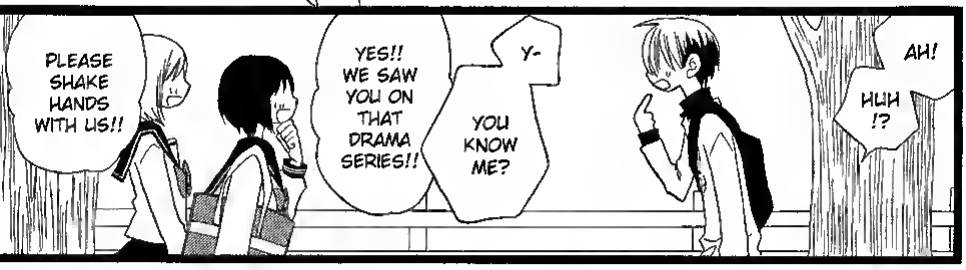
EX-
EX-CUSE ME...!
YOU'RE RYOUMA MUROTO-KUN... RIGHT?


PLEASE SHAKE HANDS WITH US!!
YES!! WE SAW YOU ON THAT DRAMA SERIES!!
Y-
YOU KNOW ME?
AH!
HUH !?

Uh...this is for a job... so you can't do anything about it.
I'm sorry about wearing a school uniform at my age.

KYAAAA!
AH! OKAY.
ALL RIGHT!
WE'RE ROOTING FOR YOU, SO PLEASE KEEP AT IT FROM NOW ON!!
We saw him in the flesh!♪
KYUEISHA STUDIO
RYOUMA'S LATE...
SHOULD I HAVE GONE TO PICK HIM UP, AFTER ALL...?
Transferring trains is so complicated.
KEN-JIROU!
KEN-JIROU!
KEN-JIROU!

SO-
SOME GIRLS JUST NOW...
WANTED TO SHAKE MY HAND...!!
OH?
YOUR FACE IS STARTING TO GET PRETTY WELL-KNOWN NOW, TOO...
EP. 6
AFTER THAT EPISODE AIRED,

Ryouma
Jin
Drama Jin
Younger brother role confirmed!!
Ryouma Muroto (15)
Jin seeks revenge for his brother Takumi
From Hayato Hanjou-kun's age
Ryouma Muroto-ku
Jin's sole family member
THERE WAS SOMEWHAT OF A BUZZ AROUND MY NAME AS THE GUY PLAYING JIN'S BROTHER.
AM I GOING TO BE A STAR AND NOT BE ABLE TO WALK OUTSIDE ANYMORE...?
WH... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
Pfft!
YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT.
DON'T BE SILLY...
WH...WHOA! IT'S SO EMBARRASSING WHEN YOU'RE YOUNG...
WHOA! HAYATO-KUN!?
What are you saying!?
THAT'S WHAT'LL END UP HAPPENING AT THIS RATE.

OH NO! HAYATO-KUN'S ALWAYS SAYING SILLY THINGS LIKE THAT!!
IS THAT HOW IT IS!!?
YEAH!!
PEOPLE FALL INTO THEIR FATE WHETHER THEY WANT TO OR NOT!!
YOU'RE ALREADY A STAR, RYOUMA-KUN.
IN FACT...
I HAVE A PAIR OF COOL SUN-GLASSES
THAT ARE PERFECT FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU, RYOUMA-KUN.
EVEN BIG SHOT STARS CAN WALK OUTSIDE IF THEY WEAR THESE.
WANT THEM?
HA... HAYATO'S MANAGER...

HEY, YOU MILITARY NERD! STOP PLAYING AROUND WITH RYOUMA!!
WHOAAA... I'M A STAR...
WOW!! THEY LOOK GREAT ON YOU!! MODELS THAT WEAR THINGS WORN BY THE MILITARY ARE SO COOL!!
AS A RESULT OF THE DRAMA, I GOT A TON OF JOBS TO DO WITH HAYATO,
Besides, am I the only one handing out jabs!? That's so unfair!!
LIKE PHOTO SHOOTS FOR FASHION MAGA-ZINES,
GET CLOSER, GUYS!

ACTUALLY, ISN'T THIS A LITTLE TOO CLOSE FOR BROTHERS!?
More?
Like this?
MORE !!
MORE ...!
MORE !!
HUH!? YOU ROOMED TOGETHER TO PREPARE FOR THE ROLE!?
INTERVIEWS FOR TV MAGAZINES,
GIVE ME ALL THE DETAILS !!
I FORGED IT.
AND I GOT KILLED BY IT.
BUT I DON'T WANT SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
TALK ABOUT A FULL-BLOWN PROMOTION!! BUT REALLY, A SWORD!!?
HERE'S A POSTER AND A SWORD AS A PRESENT.
AND ON TOP OF THAT, EVEN VARIETY SHOWS TO PROMOTE THE DRAMA.

Oh my gosh! You're having a mood swing!!
I-I-It's not like I'm wonderful or anything!
Ryouma-kun, you're new at this, right? It's wonderful how you've been working so hard
I'VE BEEN GIVEN A TON OF JOBS OVER A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME,
YOU IDIOT! THAT'S WHAT MAKES PEOPLE TALK!!
WHY!? WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT ANYMORE !!
I'm not gonna show up anymore, right!?
AND WELL,
I'M STILL LIVING WITH HAYATO AS A RESULT,
IS STUFF LIKE THIS OKAY!?
THAT'S DIRTY! SHOWBIZ IS SO DIRTY!!
WHATEVER MAKES THEM TALK!!
Drama Jin Rooming :)
Thread for talking about Jin and Takumi rooming together 50
Jin and Takumi photo collection
Investigating Jin's and Takumi's relationship
Jin and Takumi rooming together on pixiv
Jin and Takumi booklets
Jin wiki
Jin x Takumi
LOOK!!

BUT FOR NOW, I THINK MY LIFE IS PRETTY FULFILLING.
MAAAN... I'M WIPED...
YEAH.. WE HAVE MORE TO DO TOMORROW, SO LET'S GO TO SLEEP..
I WON-DER
IF MAO HAS BEEN WATCHING THESE JOBS I'VE BEEN DOING...
I MISS HER...
MY ONLY COM-PLAINT
IS THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN MAO SINCE THEN, THOUGH.
RYOUMA,
YOU CAN GO TO SCHOOL TOMORROW!

HUH !?
ALTHOUGH YOU'VE BEEN SO BUSY THAT YOU MISSED THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY.
AHH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL.
OH, YEAH!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I GET TO GO TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS MAO, TOO!
AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE MAO'S PARENTS ASKED ME TO DO THAT!
So I'm not a stalker!!
I GET TO SEE MAO FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE!!
ALL RIGHT !!
EHHH? IS SCHOOL REALLY THAT INTERESTING?
OHHH ...!

YOU SOUND JUST LIKE AN OLD GEEZER!
THAT LOOKS SO GOOD ON YOU!
YOUNGSTERS LOOK SO NICE IN SCHOOL UNIFORMS!
YOU'LL JUST MAKE ME FEEL PITIFUL TOO. SO STOP IT.
It was pretty hard for me to do it for this chapter's title page, too.
WELL, IT'S JUST...
WHEN I WEAR A SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR A JOB, IT MAKES ME FEEL SO PITIFUL...
BUT THAT UNIFORM IS FROM OYOBIGOSHI ACADEMY, RIGHT?
A LOT OF CELEBRITIES GO TO THAT SCHOOL.

N-
ARE YOU NERVOUS?
HUH?
AHAHA! YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
N-N-N-NO! I'M NOT NERVOUS OR ANYTHING!
ARE YOU NUTS !!?
I'M NOT SCARED, SO STOP IT!!
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS FOR ME TO CAST A SPELL ON YOU SO YOU DON'T GET SCARED!
DON'T WORRY! YOU'RE A CELEBRITY, TOO!
May all your fears go and fly away!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SHOW SOME CONFIDENCE AND HOLD MY HEAD UP HIGH!!!

UWAAAAA-
AAAAAAA!!
AS EXPECTED OF CELEBRITIES...
WHAT'S GOING ON
WITH THESE PEOPLE!?
THEY REALLY SET THE BAR HIGH WHEN IT COMES TO GOOD LOOKS!!!

How did you slip in here? This isn't the sort of place someone like you should be.
NOT GOOD.
THIS LOOKS PRETTY BAD. I'M REALLY OUT OF PLACE.
SOB
WON'T THEY JUST END UP TREATING ME LIKE GARBAGE AT THIS RATE...?
AH!
HUH!?
AHHHH! YOU'RE THE KID FROM "JIN"!
SO WE GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL!
YOU'VE BEEN ALL OVER THE PLACE LATELY!
YEAH! HE PLAYS JIN'S BROTHER!
HE'S RIGHT...
"YOU'RE A CELEBRITY, TOO!"
PLUS,
THAT DRAMA'S SO INTERESTING!
WHAT'D YOU THINK OF THE SHOOT?
I'M TERRIBLE AT ACTING...
It's amazing that you can do it.

EVEN CELEBRITIES ARE NORMAL PEOPLE.
AHA!
WHAT A RELIEF.
HUH?
I THOUGHT THINGS MIGHT BE MORE STRAINED THAN THIS.
EHHH?
AH HA HA HA!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT!
THE POPULAR KIDS ALMOST NEVER COME TO SCHOOL IN THE FIRST PLACE,
AND WE DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO BE COLD SINCE WE AREN'T THAT WELL-KNOWN!
You should go check it out
There's a huge cherry blossom in full bloom right now!
Really!
The cafeteria food here is great!!
The bread from the store is yummy, too!
THIS IS GREAT.

TOO BAD...
BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LKE MAO'S HERE.
SOMEHOW, IT LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE GONNA WORK OUT HERE.
=
RYOUMA!

MAO!!!
I HEARD YOU WERE HERE,
SO I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU!
D-
DID YOU JUST GET HERE?
YEAH,
!!
WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE COMING TO SCHOOL TODAY,
I PRESSED MY MANAGER TO ADJUST MY SCHEDULE.
EH!?
HUH!?
D-
DID YOU MISS ME THAT MUCH?
Just kidding
YEAH!
WHAAA-AAAT!?

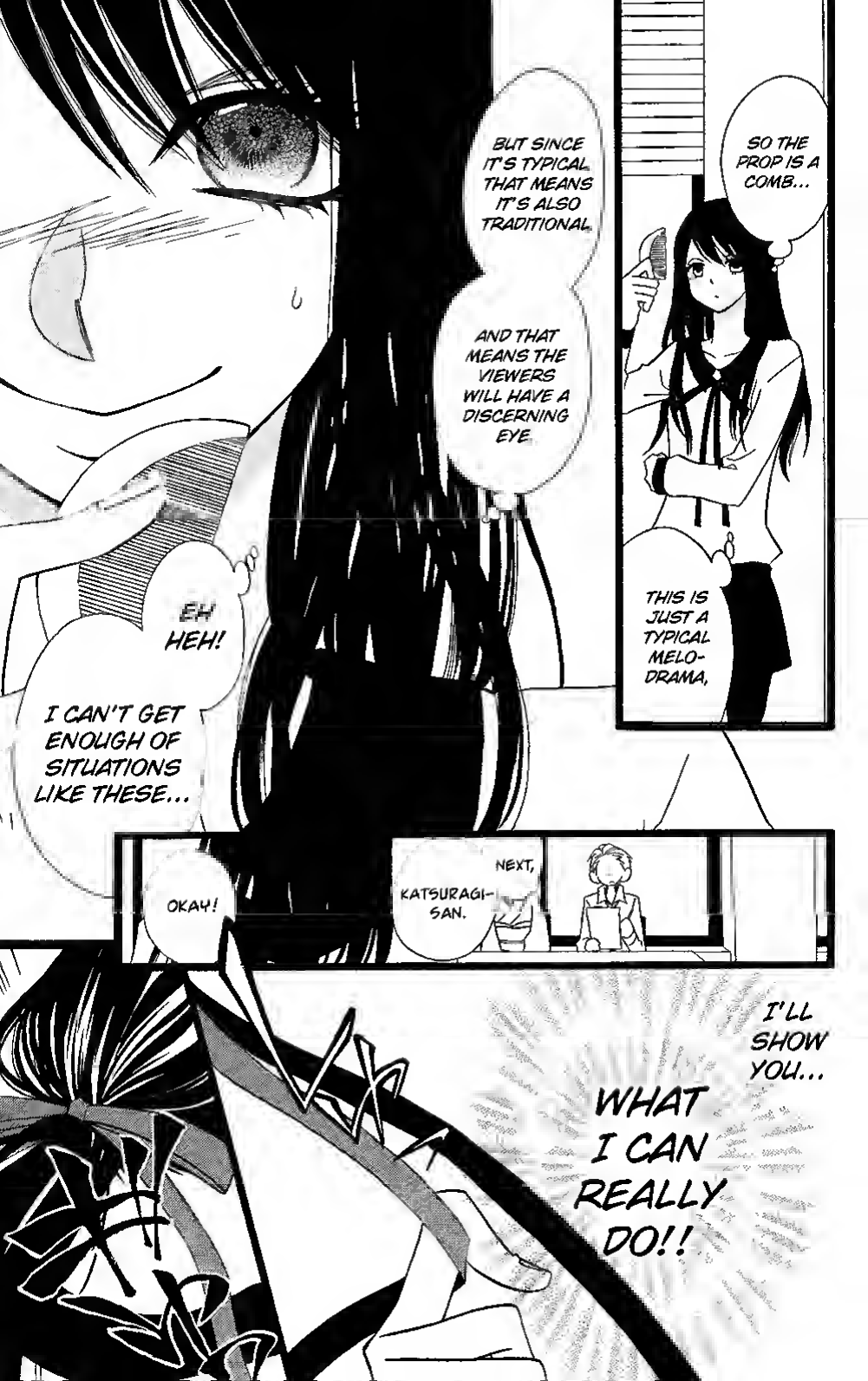
I'VE BEEN KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR WORK,
AND I SEE THAT YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HARD AT IT.
SHE CAME HERE... TO TELL ME THAT...?
SHE SAID SHE MISSED ME...
WELL, LET'S LEAVE THAT ASIDE FOR NOW!
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN DYING TO TELL YOU ABOUT.
SO THAT'S THE REAL REASON !!!?
—So she didn't come because she wanted to see me!!

HOW DID IT GO? DID YOU GET THE ROLE?
A- AHH,
IT'S ABOUT MY MOVIE AUDITION.
BUT I HAD A WONDERFUL ENCOUNTER WITH SOMEONE...
WELL, WE STILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE FINAL SCREENING,
UMM... WHAT WAS HER NAME...
!?
OH!

WHY ARE YOU...
IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GO TO THIS SCHOOL, TOO!
HUH !?
MA-MAO...
IS SHE THE GIRL... YOU HAD THAT "WONDERFUL ENCOUNTER" WITH?
YOU LITTLE !!
!
HUH !?
OH, YEAH. WHAT DID YOU SAY YOUR NAME WAS?

"HUH...?"
YEAH, IT WAS A WONDERFUL ENCOUNTER.
ENCOUNTER...?
IS SHE THAT DESPERATE?
BESIDES, CAN'T SHE GET THE ROLE THROUGH HER CONNECTIONS?
WOULD SOMEONE NORMALLY GO THAT FAR...?
SHE DYED HER HAIR BLACK FOR AN AUDITION?
EACH OF YOU WILL GET ONE MINUTE.
SO PLEASE ACT OUT A SCENE OF YOUR CHOOSING AND SHOW US WHAT YOU CAN DO.
EACH OF YOU HAVE A HANDOUT WITH THE PREMISE FOR "TAISHOU ROMANTIC FLIGHT" AND A PROP.
ALL RIGHT, YOU'LL BE DOING IMPROV FOR THE SECOND SCREENING.
THE TIME IS THE TAISHOU PERIOD.

BY HIDING HER GENDER AND BECOMING A DOMESTIC SERVANT.
BORN INTO A POOR HOUSEHOLD,
THE HEROINE DECIDES TO SUPPORT HER FAMILY
FOR PRAISING HER BLACK HAIR WHEN SHE WAS A CHILD.
HOWEVER, IN THE HOUSE WHERE SHE WORKS
IS A GUY SHE REMEMBERS FONDLY
THEIR ONLY CONNECTION
IS A COMB HE GAVE HER BACK THEN...


SO THE PROP IS A COMB...
THIS IS JUST A TYPICAL MELO-DRAMA.
BUT SINCE IT'S TYPICAL THAT MEANS IT'S ALSO TRADITIONAL.
AND THAT MEANS THE VIEWERS WILL HAVE A DISCERNING EYE.
EH HEH!
I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF SITUATIONS LIKE THESE...
NEXT, KATSURAGI-SAN.
OKAY!
I'LL SHOW YOU...
WHAT I CAN REALLY DO!!

.....?
AH ...!
ARE YOU...
THIS COMB...
THE GIRL FROM BACK THEN...?

PERFORMING THE GUY'S ROLE...!
SHE'S ...
WAS YOU...
SO THE ONE WHO'S BEEN SUPPORTING ME UP TO NOW

WOW...
THAT WAS MARVEL-OUS....
SO THAT'S WHAT SHE'S DOING...
TO THINK THAT SHE'D SHOW US THE HEROINE THROUGH THE EYES OF THE ROLE OPPOSITE HER.
SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO THIS IF SHE DIDN'T HAVE THE HEROINE'S IMAGE SOLIDIFIED IN HER HEAD, AFTER ALL.
MORE!! TELL ME MORE ...!!
HAA
A...
AHHH!
HAA
HMPH!
SCARED?
I DON'T MIND IF YOU TURN TAIL AND RUN.

OKAY.
WELL THEN, NEXT, MA-NAKA-SAN.
WH...
WHAT WAS THAT LOOK...?
HUH ...?
I CAN FIN-ALLY SEE HIM AGAIN.
SEEING HIM ALIVE AND WELL

MAKES ME
SO HAPPY.
ALTHOUGH NOW,
I DON'T HAVE THE BLACK HAIR I ONCE USED THIS COMB ON ANYMORE.

EVEN THOUGH SHE DIDN'T SAY A WORD..
ALL SHE CAN DO IS LOVE HIM WHILE LOOKING ON IN THE SHADOWS..! HOW SAD!
I COULD SEE THE MANSION JUST NOW..
I...
HOLY CRAP!
I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THIS...!
...HEH!
EH HEH HEH HEH HEH!
AS LONG AS THIS GIRL IS AROUND,
I COULD MAKE A LOT MORE PROGRESS.
I HAD PLANNED ON CRUSHING YOU,
BUT I'LL HAVE TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT YOU NOW.

I'M MAO MANAKA.
MAO.
I'M NINA KATSURAGI.
YOU BETTER REMEMBER THAT.
OHH!?
AND YOU STILL DON'T REMEMBER MY NAME!?
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA!!!?
WHAT ABOUT THAT INTENSE EXCHANGE WE HAD!!?

IT'S NOT LIKE
NAMES MAKE SOMEONE WHO THEY ARE, RIGHT?
OH? SO YOU KNEW WHAT I WAS DOING.
Teh heh!
SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT WITH A SIGNATURE LOOK ISN'T GONNA WORK!!
You're such a rude girl!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!? I'M A YOUTHFUL 16-YEAR-OLD!!
WHAT!? WE'RE IN THE SAME GRADE!?
SHE'S SURE HAVING FUN...
WELL, YOU'RE MUCH OLDER THAN ME, RIGHT?
BUT STILL, TRESPASSING DOESN'T SIT TOO WELL WITH ME.
WHAT !?
BY THE WAY, I SEE THAT YOU WENT BACK TO YOUR ORIGINAL HAIR COLOR.
OF COURSE I DID!

EH HEH!
I HAVE A TON OF JOBS AT MY DISPOSAL,
Thanks to my good looks.
UNLIKE YOU.
RING RING RING
SEE YOU GUYS LATER!
I GOTTA GO!
OH! IT'S MY MANAGER!
We were talking...
MA-
MAO
!?
GAAAAH! MANAGER!! BOOK SOME MORE JOBS FOR ME, TOO!!
YOU KNOW HER?
SO, WHO ARE YOU?

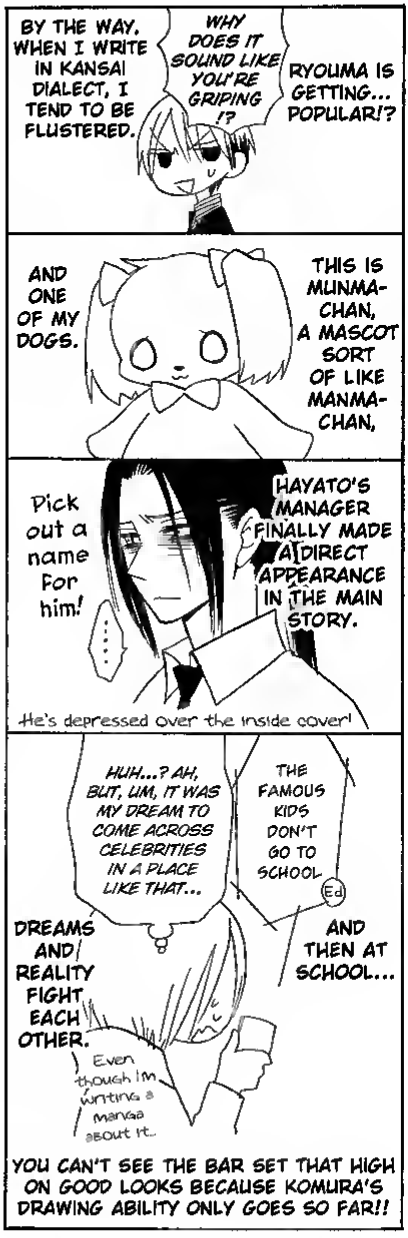
...RYOUMA MUROTO!
I'M MAO'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND!
AND I'VE BEEN ALL OVER ON TV AND STUFF LATELY!
I SEE,
THEN YOU'RE IN SHOWBIZ, TOO?
AH! SHOULD I HAVE KEPT QUIET ABOUT BEING HER CHILDHOOD FRIEND?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SUCH A PIPSQUEAK?
PIP !?
WHAT'S WITH THIS RUDE GIRL...?
WELL, AREN'T YOU? YOUR LOOKS DON'T REALLY MAKE YOU STAND OUT THAT MUCH.
...YOU'RE NOT GONNA TELL ME
THAT YOU MADE YOUR WAY INTO THIS WORLD BECAUSE YOU WERE CHASING AFTER THAT GIRL, RIGHT?
!!!

WHA!?
A-A-A-AS IF! T-T-THAT'S NOT WHY!!
HAAA... I KNEW IT...
THERE SURE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO JUST WALTZ IN WITH SILLY REASONS LIKE THAT.
PEOPLE TEND TO UNDER-ESTIMATE SHOWBIZ.
BUT WELL, THAT GIRL DEFINITELY HAS THIS ALLURE TO HER.
SHE'S SO POSITIVE, AND SHE MAKES ME WANT TO GO ALL-OUT, TOO.
BUT,
THAT IS WHY
YOU'LL NEVER BE ON HER RADAR IF YOU'RE JUST FOLLOWING HER FROM BEHIND,
AND THIS WORLD ISN'T SO GENEROUS AS TO ALLOW YOU TO MAKE IT BIG BY DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

IF YOU JUST CAME HERE TO CHASE AFTER HER,
HURRY UP AND GO BACK TO YOUR OWN WORLD.

FD NG! 9

THE SCHOOL HAD A DIFF-ERENT NAME AT FIRST, BUT
THAT ACTU-ALLY EXISTS!!
HUH!?
PICK A DIFF-ERENT NAME!!
IT ENDED UP LIKE THAT BECAUSE OF THAT.
EVEN THOUGH I WAS GOING TO INTRODUCE A CERTAIN NEW CHARACTER,
NINA-SAN TOOK CHARGE OF EVERYTHING.
Nina-san has big hands.
I'VE DUG MY OWN GRAVE YET AGAIN BY RANDOMLY CHOOSING A TITLE FOR THE STORY WITHIN A STORY.
Urgggh...


BY THE WAY, WHEN I WRITE IN KANSAI DIALECT, I TEND TO BE FLUSTERED.
WHY DOES IT SOUND LIKE YOU'RE GRIPING!?
RYOUMA IS GETTING... POPULAR!?
AND ONE OF MY DOGS.
THIS IS MUNMA-CHAN, A MASCOT SORT OF LIKE MANMA-CHAN,
Pick out a name for him!
HAYATO'S MANAGER FINALLY MADE A DIRECT APPEARANCE IN THE MAIN STORY.
He's depressed over the inside cover!
HUH...? AH, BUT, UM, IT WAS MY DREAM TO COME ACROSS CELEBRITIES IN A PLACE LIKE THAT...
THE FAMOUS KIDS DON'T GO TO SCHOOL
Ed
AND THEN AT SCHOOL...
DREAMS AND REALITY FIGHT EACH OTHER.
Even though I'm writing a manga about it...
YOU CAN'T SEE THE BAR SET THAT HIGH ON GOOD LOOKS BECAUSE KOMURA'S DRAWING ABILITY ONLY GOES SO FAR!!

TL note: Manma is a dog mascot of the variety talk show Samma no Manma